

WELLINGTON GARDEN CLUB
Minutes from Board of Directors Meeting
November 29, 2023 – 9:35 AM
Wellington Community Center – WiFi Room

Attendees: Stormi Bivin, Linda DeSanti, Lisa Ferrano, Marianne Forrest, Cynthia Gardner, Caren Griffin, Linda Messina, Twig Morris, Carol Ralph, Dee Rolfe, Petra Russell, Jan Seagrave, John Siena, Danese Sloan-Kendall, Maria Wolfe

I. Call to Order – Carol Ralph

- A. Established a quorum
- B. Silenced all cell phones

II. Office Reports

A. Recording Secretary – Cynthia Gardner

- 1. Minutes of the October 25, 2023 Board of Directors meeting were approved as corrected for punctuation and typos.

B. Presidents Report

- 1. Attendance at the November 6th, 2023 membership meeting was 84 members and 8 guests.
- 2. Holiday Gift Boutique is this Saturday, December 2, 2023. Carol Ralph printed flyers for BOD members to pass out at local shops and businesses. Maria Wolfe suggested taking one upstairs in the Community Center to the Bingo gathering.
- 3. The Holiday luncheon has 80 members signed up. Casa Tequila banquet room will be decorated by members for the holiday.
- 4. 50/50 and Opportunity Drawing tickets from FFGC Convention in Jacksonville in April 2024 are still available from Carol Ralph and Kathy Siena.
- 5. Advertising in the April issue of Florida Gardener is being organized and prepared by Carol Ralph and Christine Biscoglio.
- 6. John Siena will be speaking on behalf of the WGC at the Rotary Club meeting on December 14, 2023 and will highlight the various WGC programs. Carol Ralph will also be in attendance.
- 7. The New Member Reception will be on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 in the Lakeview West Room of the Community Center from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm. BOD Committee Chairs are being requested to provide food for the breakfast. Sign-up sheet for food will be organized by Carol Ralph.
- 8. Linda DeSanti will give a floral design presentation during Minute for Gardening at the January 8, 2024 membership meeting.

C. Treasurer – Danese Sloan-Kendall – no report

D. 1st Vice President – Petra Russell – no report.

E. 2nd Vice President – Carol Ralph for Kristi Westrup

- 1. Speaker for the January 8, 2024 Membership Meeting will be Tom Peterson (Kristi's father) on honey and beekeeping. Topic - Pollinators & their Natural Habitats.

F. Corresponding Secretary – Jan Seagrave – no report.

III. Standing Committee Reports

A. Around & About – Caren Griffin

- 1. Drive-thru tour of Lion Country Safari on January 18, 2024 at 10:00 am. Needs list of names/payment one week prior. Rain or shine. Café Roar offers lunch.
- 2. Flamingo Gardens walking tour on February 15, 2024. \$55 – needs payment 2 days prior. Includes admission, lunch and bus transportation. Sign-up sheet at the January 8, membership meeting.
- 3. Jan Seagrave read a thank you letter regarding the Butterfly Garden. Carol & Kimberly will be working there on Thursday, November 30, 2023.

B. Community Garden – Carol Ralph

- a. Boys and Girls Club is slowly progressing. Carol & Diane spread chicken poop and cleaned out the messy shed. Susan Hillson and Twig Morris have volunteered as well.

IV. Special Committee Reports

A. Tropical Short Course - Maria Wolfe

- a. Reminder for Tropical Short Course registration on January 25th & 26th 2024 at Wellington Community Center. Great speakers, film and floral design presentations.

B. Wekiva Volunteer Training – Stormi Bivin

- a. Time to promote training weekend Friday, February 9, 2024 to Sunday noon followed by Wekiva Open House. Carol Ralph, Katherine Wagner-Reiss and maybe Stormi Bivin will be attending. January 10, 2024 is the registration deadline. Live like a camper. Limited to 40 volunteers in volunteer cabins. Overflow will stay in campers' cabins. \$75 includes meals. Qualifies for 50% member reimbursement. Purpose of the training is to learn how Wekiva works and the program planned for the upcoming summer camp. Volunteers specify crafts or nature. 6 one-week long sessions from 06/16, 2024 - 07/27, 2024 Co-ed and single sex sessions. Critters (1st and 2nd graders) have three day sessions. Wekiva is the only garden club sponsored overnight camp in U.S.

C. Awards Report – Twig Morris

- 1. Submitted entries in several categories.
- 2. Twig Morris, Linda DiSanti and Linda Messina would like to organize 3 floral design workshops to be discussed at the January 8th membership meeting. Casual arrangements for the home at 3 consecutive monthly meetings.

- D. Document Shredding Fundraiser** on Saturday, January 13, 2024. 9:00 to 11:00 am in front of Wellington Town Hall. Maria will lend her personal tent. Need help – only 3 volunteers so far. Flyers available for distribution by BOD members.

V. Old Business

- A.** Carol Ralph and Twig Morris are working on the 100 Ways to Celebrate 100 Years list. List can be found under the FFGC website under Nell Coe Awards #61. Each FFGC President picks their own project. Carol Ralph will breakdown her project list into a series of power point presentations for the membership over the next two years of her presidency.
- B. Holiday Gift Boutique – Carol Ralph and Petra Russell** are looking for a volunteer to man the booth of an outside vendor.

VI. New Business

- A.** Dee Rolfe provided a status on the February 7, 2024 Crafts Workshop from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Carol Lazzarino is making felt succulent plant flowers. Sign-up sheet available. \$15.
- B.** Dee Rolfe mentioned a request from some members for the club to have Christine Biscoglio and Susan Hillson repeat their past floral design classes.

VII. Announcements

- A.** Stormi Bivin is accepting checks today for the Kings Academy Theatre tickets from BOD members for Best of Broadway and will fill out the forms. February 3, 2024 at 1:00 pm performance.

Meeting adjourned at 10:41 am.

Respectfully submitted.

Cynthia Gardner
Recording Secretary