

**Wellington Garden Club
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 2, 2024
Wellington Community Center**

Attendance: JoAnn Akins, Alison Albury, Uma Bhatti, Lisa Ferraro, Carol Ralph, Dee Rolfe, Jan Seagrave, John Siena, Kathy Siena, Danese Sloan-Kendall, Maria Wolfe, Linda Messina, Mimi Borowy, Carol Dima

I. Meeting Called to Order at 9:42am

- A.** A quorum was established.
- B.** All cell phones were silenced.
- C.** Announced Mimi Borowy and Carol Dima accepted a Co-Recording Secretaries position for balance of 2024-2025 Season. Mimi Borowy will be the lead and Carol Dima will be assistant. Board voted in Approval.
- D.** The WGC received a donation of \$5,000 from Polacek/MacGregor Charitable Fund to be earmarked: \$3,000 Scholarships, \$1,000 Camp Wekiva, \$1,000 as needed. Motion was made by Jan Seagrave and seconded by Lisa Ferraro to propose that if entire \$1,000 for Camp Wekiva is not used for Campership, the balance be sent to the Camp Wekiva Wish List. Motion Carried.

II. Officer Reports

- A. Recording Secretary** - Minutes from April 24, 2024. Approved as submitted. BOD Minutes from August 28, 2024 need to add Attendance and resubmit. Accepted as Corrected.
- B. Presidents Report** -
 - a.** Need to know who is attending the 10/28/24 FFGC District X Fall Meeting. With a drop in membership, we now have 4 total delegate votes (instead of 5). Need 3 additional members (in addition to Carol Ralph) who are not FFGC board members that will be attending.
 - b.** There were 77 total attendees with 4 guests at the September 9, 2024 Membership Meeting. One guest became a member - Trish Kohlway.
 - c.** Sunset Social on October 25, 2024 at Kimberly Helms home, 9443 Granite Ridge Lane, West Palm Beach, FL from 4pm - 6pm.
 - d.** Received 2025 baseball schedule from Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter for Major League Baseball Spring Training. Tickets are \$22. There are also Minor League games for \$7.00/person. Carol Ralph will begin talking to membership about this in January to pick a date for a WGC Outing, and put out a signup sheet.
 - e.** Followed up with FFGC regarding memorial brick for Kay Brown. We ordered in December 2023 and it still has not been received. They almost have enough orders for bricks to place the entire order. Possibly by 11/16/24.

Board concerned about this year-long delay. Discussed sending her family a nice certificate/letter to announce that a brick has been ordered in her memory.

Suggested that Jan, Corresponding Secretary, prepare and send the letter to the family on the one year anniversary of her death. This will be done in the future when bricks are ordered.

C. Treasure - Denise Sloan Kendall

- a. See Treasurer's Report dated 9/30/24 which is included in Recording Secretary files.
- b. Sera Peat is in charge of Club Shirts. Looking for a new supplier. Need to possibly reduce color choices and sizes offered.

D. 1st Vice President - Still a vacancy. John Siena suggested we need to call on the Nominating Committee to address this. Candidate must be a member for one year (Article 8, Section 8.2). Committee could check members who have belonged to another club and may have experience.

E. 2nd Vice President - Kristi Westrup will be moving to Tampa but will continue in this position for the year. Speaker for 10/7 will be Tom Ramiccio re Bromeliad Propagation. Will be bringing bromeliads for sale. He usually does not charge a speakers fee. Dr. Paul Gray, Scientist with Audubon Florida, will speak in November on the History of Human Relationships with the Waterfowl Group.

F. Corresponding Secretary - Jan Seagrave. Cards sent to Stormi Bivin and Karin Teston after knee surgery. Also to Marianne Forrest. No information yet on a memorial service for Cynthia Gardner. Carol Coleman is trying to plan a service possibly for the end of the month. Margaret Tamsberg had surgery last week. Jan will be sending a card.

III. Standing Committee Reports - Kimberly Helms unable to attend today. Tara Green-Hunter will not be able to work on the Around & About any longer. Around & About for 10/17/24 at 10:00am to South Florida Permaculture Resource Center. Meet at Carpool locations at 9:20am. This had been planned for last year but was rained out. November 7 A&A will be at Cluett Memorial Garden at The Church of Bethesda-by-the-Sea at 9:30am and Kit Pannill's Garden at 10:30am. Lunch at Al Fresco in Palm Beach. Meet at carpool locations at 9:15am. Sign up sheets will be at the Member meeting. Around & About are posted on the WGC Website.

IV. Special Committee Reports

- a. Holiday Luncheon 12/2/24 at Wellington National Golf Club - Dee Rolfe still needs gift cards for restaurants.
- b. Maria Wolfe - District X Fall Meeting on 10/28 hosted by Rio Linda Garden Club. Will be held at Santa Lucia River Club at Ballantrae in Port St. Lucie. Maria has information flyers and registration forms. Cost is \$50.00 includes continental breakfast and buffet lunch.

Keynote speaker is Ken Gioeli, IFAS/UF, speaking on "Everything Atala: Celebrating the Return of the Atala Butterfly to Florida".

- c. FFGC and District X presenting the 68th Annual Tropical Short Course, "Off The Grid" January 23-24, 2025 here at Wellington Community Center. Speakers include Tina Tuttle, FFGC President, Dr. Steve Davis (Everglades Foundation), Gil Martin Daigneau, (Farmer and Rancher re Food Sources), Teresa Watkins, (Radio/TV gardner), Tex Norwood, (Plumerias Grower & Hybridizer, developed Excaliber fertilizer specific to Plumerias), Stephanie Dunn (Landscape Designer). Cost is \$80, includes breakfast and lunch. This event is member education reimbursement eligible.
- d. The Kings Academy - Tickets to Charlie & the Chocolate Factory. Stormi gave Carol Ralph the tickets to hand out for those who had purchased them. Stormi obtained two tickets to West Side Story for the Holiday Luncheon raffle. Christmas Nights of Jazz on December 6, 2024 is our next group theater event. Tickets go on sale to the public October 25, 2024.

V. Old Business

- a. Kathy Siena - 10th Annual Tree Planting 9/28/24. Scout Troop 125, Parents, Grandparents, Council Members, a few WGC members, and many Volunteers, High Schoolers, and Attendees planted 500 Florida native shrubs in pre-dug holes at Rotary Peace Park. There is a plan for a one-mile wetlands boardwalk path nearby. Would like to see more WGC members participating. Pictures for Powerpoint for 10/7/24 meeting will be provided.
- b. Pick and Grow Tree Planting Project - Kathy Siena. Palm Beach County Community Greening project gives away native trees but with lots of requirements for kind of trees, planting and maintenance. We cannot do it this year, but possibly next year. Timing does not work for Arbor Day, but Kathy has another idea to pursue.
- c. NGC Youth Poetry Contest 2024. Carol Ralph will take over this project.
- d. Reminder about the "Saving Endangered Florida Panthers" Presentation by Carol Rizkalla, PhD, Florida Panther Management Program Coordinator, October 24, 2024, 2:00pm-3:30pm at Wellington Community Center. WGC and Oleander GC are co-sponsoring. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Information flyer and signup sheets will be available at the 10/7/24 meeting. Need to push this event. WGC members attending are asked to bring easy to eat cookies, brownies, etc. Tea, lemonade, water will be provided. It was mentioned that a documentary "Path of the Panther" recently won an Emmy.

VI. New Business

- a. Carol Ralph announced that John Tamsberg, on the Wellington Tree Board, will talk about the VOW Annual F.L.O.W.E.R. (Fabulous Landscapes of Wellington Earning Recognition) Award at the October 7, 2024 Membership Meeting. He is looking for nominations to submit.
- b. All set with Total Shredding for our Shredding Event Fundraiser this year on Saturday, 1/25/25 from 9a-11a.
Invited by PB Sheriff Office to join them on their shredding event 11/19/24.

Reached out to us through Michelle Garvey. Carol Ralph will check on details. Maria Wolfe offered it would be good pr/community relations for WGC by helping the PBSO with this project.

VII. Announcements

- a.** Danese mentioned there is a National Garden Club Disaster Fund. We sent money to the Garden Club of Naples after a hurricane. Not budgeted this year, possibly an oversight. Discussion regarding hurricane devastation of the clubhouse of the Garden Club of St. Petersburg. Maria Wolfe motioned, seconded by Jan Seagrave, that the WGC donate \$500 to the Garden Club of St. Petersburg to help defray the costs to rebuild after hurricane Helene. Motion Carried. The \$500 will come from the \$1,000 As Needed portion of the Policek/MacGregor Donation received (Income Account 4302 - Donations) and will be dispersed from the Discretionary Funds Account.
- b.** Mounts Botanical Gardens donated two tickets which Carol Ralph will give to Dee Rolfe for the Holiday Luncheon Raffle.
- c.** Jan Seagrave asked about doing something in memory of Cynthia Gardner. Carol Ralph learned from Carol Coleman that burial will be at Mida Farms (Victoria McCullough was close friends with Cynthia). A bench will be placed at the site in Cynthia's memory. Carol Ralph has asked if WGC could donate a plant, bush, or tree at the burial site, and waiting to find out about that idea.

VIII. Adjourn - No further business to discuss. Meeting adjourned at 10:57am.

Respectfully submitted.
Mariclaire "Mimi" Borowy
Recording Secretary