

**Wellington Garden Club
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, January 27, 2025
Wellington Community Center**

Attendance: Alison Albury, Stormi Bivin, Cynthia Craig, Huguette Damas, Linda Messina, Twig Morris, Carol Ralph, Dee Rolfe, Jan Seagrave, John Siena, Danese Sloan-Kendall, Maria Wolfe, Mimi Borowy, Carol Dima, Annette Lubsen, Susie Stevenson.

I. Meeting Called To Order at 9:35AM

- A.** A quorum was established
- B.** All cell phones were silenced

II. Officer Report

A. Recording Secretary - Minutes from January 2, 2025 BOD were accepted as submitted.

B. President's Report

- a. There were 70 members who attended the January 6, 2025 Membership meeting with 7 guests.
- b. The Sunset Social on February 21, 2025, will be at Carol Ralph's home at 15694 Citrus Grove Boulevard, Loxahatchee from 4pm to 6pm. There is a signup sheet available.
- c. The sign we ordered for the Wildflower Meadow is in and very nice. Will Gurney has agreed to install it.
- d. Gift for the Tropical Short Course raffle. Maria Wolfe had requested only one gift from each District X club as some do not have funds for a raffle gift for each day. Carol Ralph made an executive decision that WGC will give two gifts. JoAnn Akins purchased an orchid and Kimberly Helms created a succulent dish.

C. Treasurer - Danese Sloan-Kendall. Preliminary report only. Will have the final in a day or two, and ready to send out with the member meeting notice.

- a. In answer to John Siena's question regarding possible liability with too much equity, the answer is that there is no limit to the amount of money non-profits can keep in their reserves, as long as it can be proved that funds are being used to advance the non-profit's mission. Then, money can be directed as the non-profit wishes.
- b. John Siena mentioned there is actually \$8,000 available for Scholarships this year and an additional \$1,000 for Wekiva scholarships.

III. 1st Vice President

A. Annette Lubsen reported on the Shredding Event. WGC grossed \$1039, less \$150.00 expenses, leaving a profit of \$889. Great day and fun event.

B. Susie Stevenson reported on Baseball Outing "Baseball Adventure" to be held at the Roger Dean Stadium in Jupiter, Sunday, May 18, 2025. Game starts at 12:30pm. The Jupiter Hammerheads versus Fort Myers Mighty Muscles. Tickets are \$25.00 a person (max 30 people/minimum of 10) for an air conditioned suite. We have to purchase food from vendors. Veterans get in for

free. We will mention we are a nonprofit organization to see if they would give us a reduced price.

IV. 2nd.Vice President - Carol Ralph for Kristi Westrup. Speaker for the February 3 meeting is Jason Mackey on the topic Making Orchids Simple. Speaker on March 3 is Dr. Steve Davis, Chief Science Officer, The Everglades Foundation, on the topic Everglades Restoration Builds Resilience for South Florida.

V. Corresponding Secretary - Jan Seagrave. Nothing to report.

VI. Standing Committee Reports -

- A.** Kimberly Helms. Our February 13 Around and About will be to the Bamboo and Orchid Gardens Davie, Florida. Carol Ralph suggested carpooling. Lunch is at Vienna Café and Bistro, 5724 S. Flamingo Rd., Cooper City, Florida (at individual's expense).
- B.** Our March 13 Around and About will be to The Arboretum at Constitution Park, Deerfield Beach, Florida. Lunch at the Whale's Rib Raw Bar, Deerfield Beach (at individual's expense).

VII. Special Committee Reports

- A. Arbor Day Celebration** - Annette Lubsen reported on the Arbor Day celebration held at the Wildflower Meadow in Greenbrier Park. Annette brought in pictures from the Town Crier to show how much fun it was. Annette Lubsen presented Justin Ramich a Certificate of Appreciation from the WGC for the work he did on the four beautiful benches. Twig Morris reported she attended the Arbor Day Celebration at the Ellison Independent Living residence. They planted trees for which WGC contributed \$80. Barbara Hadsell (WGC member) had organized it all. It was a lovely event.
- B. Wekiva Campers** - Jan Seagrave. All available spots have been filled, plus 2 critters on the wait list, also 2 on the grade 3 to 6 wait list. Have 2 to 3 people who will attend the volunteer training leadership classes that might be going. We get camper discounts for each volunteer going from our club that is connected to a camper. Wekiva used to charge the campers/parents a \$40 registration fee. They are now charging a full flat fee price. WGC will still charge the child/parent a \$40 registration fee. Prices are \$150 for critters & \$310 for regular camper and \$450.00 beyond 6th grade. There will be a short fall from budget, even considering the \$1,000 donation. Maria Wolfe made a Motion that WGC fund 100% of Wekiva camperships for those students who have registered and who are on the wait list for Summer 2025 (seven registered campers so far, counting LIT). Susie Stevenson seconded the Motion. The Motion did not carry. It was felt the \$40 was incentive for the parents to be more vested in the children attending as promised. WGC will also consider Title One students. Details will be discussed as soon as the Budget Committee meets the end of February or early March.
- C. Mardi Gras Trivia** - Stormi Bivin. To be held in the District Room at the Wellington Green Mall on March 4, 2025 at 11:30 AM sharp. Arrive by 11:15am. A small fundraiser for the WGC. We will have tables and teams of up to eight people. It will not be announced to the public. It will be one and 1/2 hours of trivia. WGC will utilize CPK's fundraiser program "Pizza with a Purpose" where

WGC can earn 20% of the profits from the proceeds of the lunches purchased. Cost of the trivia is \$5 per person. Outside people are invited. The Mall is charging us for the room. We are trying to negotiate not paying that fee.

D. Unsolicited Landscape Design Award - Stormi Bivin reminded us to look for candidates with landscapes at small businesses, public facilities, private facilities, or private homes that would qualify for the award. Her deadline is March 24, 2025. No gated communities. The front of gated communities are allowed.

E. TKA - Stormi Bivin. West Side Story broke a record, 80 tickets were sold for a profit of \$400.00 .

VII. Special Committee Report

A. Annette Lubsen - New member reception is Thursday, February 27, 2025, 9a-12p, at Wellington Community Center. Board members and Committee Chairs are asked to bring food items. Name tags, centerpieces, and invitations are still under consideration. Alison Albury submitted a new member list as of last February. Mentors are also invited.

B. Membership - Alison Albury. Membership Committee is operating efficiently. Alison announced she is resigning as of June 1, 2025. The new Presidents will be looking for a volunteer for Membership Chairman.

C. Club Shirts. Carol Ralph reported that Sera Peat is still researching the club shirts. She has asked for samples of the material from two vendors. It is too early at this point to decide on colors.

D. 98th Annual FFGC 2025 Convention - Maria Wolfe invited all to attend in Jacksonville, FL on April 8-10, 2025. "Garden Club 101- Back to Basics". It will be an installation ceremony for the new FFGC President, Christy Linke, and new District X Director. There will be top notch educational programs to attend, many fun things planned like a talent show, and a .5 run. Flyers were passed out.

WGC Flower Show - Maria Wolfe. "All You Need is Love" on Monday, May 5, 2025 from 2p-5p at Wellington National Golf Club. Will be an NGC Small Standard Flower Show. Open and free to the public. Same day and place as the WGC Spring luncheon where new WGC Co-Presidents will be installed as well as awarding the Scholarships. We need entries for the flower show. Barbara May will be conducting three floral design workshops (2/21, 3/10, 3/31) for WGC members to teach basic design techniques on how to create a small standard arrangement which can be entered into the flower show. Maria requested volunteers to help organize the flower show. Should encourage new members to volunteer for this and for the WGC Plant Sale on Earth Day, April 27.

VIII. Old Business

A. FFGC SEEK Capital Fund (Saving Earth Environment thru Knowledge) -

Cynthia Craig. Program set up by the University of Florida for Grades 10,11,12. The third week in June, 4 nights and 5 days on campus involving lectures, field trips, sample collection, experiments. Registration fee is \$300, each participant is asked to pay a non-refundable \$50 fee. Each year we can sponsor up to five students. U of F does not decide until the end of March each year whether this

program will be offered which is difficult for students and parents to plan around. One repeating student who went last year and he has five friends who also want to attend (two of them attended last year). Twig Morris made a Motion that Cynthia Craig spend the \$300 that is in the WGC budget for SEEK to fund a SEEK Scholarship, Jan Seagrave Seconded the Motion. Unanimous Approval. Motion Carried.

IX. Announcements

- A. Nominating Committee** - Carol Ralph announced that Linda Messina is Chair. Stormi Bivin, Twig Morris, and Kathy Hood have agreed to work with her to find the Officers for Annette Lubsen and Susie Stevenson's Term of Office as Co-Presidents 2025-2027.
- B.** Carol Ralph announced that Maria Wolfe will be the 3rd VP of FFGC, effective June 1, 2025.
- C.** Carol Ralph received a call from Oleander Garden Club of the Palm Beaches. They are having their "Sounds of Spring" Outdoor Concert on Thursday, March 13, 2025, at Holy Trinity Church in West Palm Beach. There is a flyer available at the meeting for further information.
- D.** Dee Rolfe, mentioned that at the last Members Meeting, after the Speaker, the room vacated with very few in attendance for the business portion. This is rude. Carol Ralph will address this issue at the next meeting.
- E.** Danese Sloan-Kendall mentioned that every year WGC donates \$500 per year to Habitat for Humanity. Danese and Carol Ralph attended the H for H event at Seagate Country Club. Top notch event with free food, free drinks, fashion show, etc. Suggested the Budget Committee consider making a larger donation to them, but should investigate where our money is being used.

F. Meeting Adjourned at 11:22am

Respectfully Submitted,
Mariclaire "Mimi" Borowy
Carol Dima
Co-Recording Secretaries

