

**Wellington Garden Club  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Monday, March 31, 2025  
Wellington Community Center**

**Attendance:** Uma Bhatti, Stormi Bivin, Cynthia Craig, Huguette Damas, Marianne Forrest, Kimberly Helms, Linda Messina, 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 9:31am**

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

**II. Officer Reports**

**A. Recording Secretary** - Minutes from the 2/24/25 Board of Directors Meeting were Approved as Submitted.

**B. President's Report** - Carol Ralph

- a. There were 76 Members attending the 3/3/25 Membership meeting with 6 guests.
- b. The 4/11/25 Sunset Social will be at Kevin Fritz' garden at 8154 Pine Cay Rd., VillageWalk, Wellington from 4pm-6pm. Kevin offered to provide everything including finger foods and beverages. He wants everyone to enjoy his gardens. In a gated community so attendees must sign up for gate entrance.
- c. The Mall at Wellington Green Children's Day Event on 4/5/25 from 11am to 1pm. WGC Volunteers will man a table to help children plant seeds.
- d. The slate of officers for 2025-2027 are Annette Lubsen and Susie Stevenson, Co-Presidents. There is still no 1st Vice President. 2nd Vice President is Robin Hummel-Johnson. Mimi Borowy and Carol Dima, Co-Recording Secretaries. Bobby Ziegler, Corresponding Secretary. John Siena, Parliamentarian. Marianne Forrest, Treasurer. Danese Sloan-Kendall, Assistant Treasurer. Carol Ralph, Former President ex-officio.

**C. Treasurer Report.** Marianne Forrest. Have a preliminary report thru 3/30/25. Will have the Final ready for the 4/7/25 Member meeting. Balance in checking account is \$37,732.95. Sent out the YTD Budget. Discussion regarding profit and loss line items layout and how the amounts can be presented so the budget is easier to interpret for committee chairs, officers, and members. A motion was presented by Kimberly Helms to accept the 2025-2026 Budget as amended with TKA Account 4409D \$4,200 Income and Account 6599D \$3,500 Expenses. Linda Messina seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- a. A letter from Twig Morris was read regarding offering FFGC Floral Design Series Courses 1-6 to WGC members in 2026 and requested \$1,000 be added to the budget line item 6807 to cover expenses over and above the student fees. Expenses may be offset by some fundraising at the classes.

After discussion, Carol Ralph asked for a show of hands in favor of leaving this line item in the budget as is. Majority approved.

**D. First Vice Presidents** - No report from Annette Lubsen or Susie Stevenson

**III. Second Vice President** - Kristi Westrup. Carol Ralph reported speaker for 4/7/25 Member meeting is Charmaine Peters, Farm Director at Arden. Topic is Smarty Plants: Safe Solutions for Disease in Your Garden.

**IV. Corresponding Secretary** - Jan Seagrave. Card sent to Carol Lazzarino. Reported that Mary Ellen Chestnut passed away. She was an FFGC Life Member, Pillar of Pride recipient, and NGC Floral Design Judge emeritus, and long time WGC member, the mother of WGC member Sylvia Evans. A memorial service and butterfly release is planned for 4/24 or 4/25. A sympathy card will be sent. This announcement will be added to the Member meeting agenda. A motion was made by Susie Stevenson, Seconded by Stormi Bivin, to purchase a tree and plaque to honor Mary Ellen Chestnut, and plant it in our Wildflower Garden with a budget of \$100. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **V. Standing Committee Reports**

**A. Membership** - Alison Albury still needs a membership chair as she is retiring. Membership renewals are due.

**B. Around & About** - Kimberly Helms. Wednesday, April 16, to Vizcaya Museum & Gardens in Miami. Sign up sheet is available.

#### **VI. Special Committee Reports**

**A. WGC Spring Luncheon** - Carol Ralph & Dee Rolfe. Price is \$47. Cash Bar. There will be a credit card fee for bar drinks. Menu is Grilled Salmon, Chicken Marsala, Pasta Primavera, House Salad w/Champagne Vinaigrette, Roasted Fingerling Potatoes, Balsamic Vegetable Medley, and Strawberry Shortcake. The WGC Flower Show is the same day from 2pm-5pm.

**B. Flower Show Horticulture Workshop** - Stormi Bivin. In-person Grooming Session on 4/15, at Wellington Community Center (first floor) 10-11am. Admission is free. Learn how to groom plants for the show. Flower Show Entry Deadline is extended to 4/25. Complete Information email sent out 3/30. Maria Wolfe updated on the Flower Show. The Wellington Mayor will be on hand to cut the ribbon. There are flyers available for distribution around town to encourage attendance.

#### **VII. Old Business**

**A. WGC Shirts** - Carol Ralph reported for Sera Peat. Vendor is Green Gorilla in Loxahatchee. Prices are \$27 or \$32. Pink and Navy color choices being considered. May be a \$150 set up fee. Still no final decision on the shirts.

#### **IX. New Business**

**A. Plant Sale** - Carol Ralph. Asking for volunteers and for plant donations for the sale on 4/26. Have two vendors. Working with three nurseries to offer plants including native plants on consignment. Two food vendors. WGC provided two craft items for the Village Children's Craft table. Kimberly Helms offered to donate succulent pots. Markus Lockhart is a new contact for this event.

**B. Plant Sale Signs and Garden Tour Signs** - Carol Ralph reported our signs are in very bad shape. Banyan Printing can make 2-sided free standing signs for WGC

with velcro to apply whatever event they are being used for. Our metal frames can be used again. Offered a price: 10 Plant Sale, 20 Garden Tour, 20 arrow signs with velcro backing. 20 WGC 2-sided signs. \$438.42. Requesting permission to buy the signs. Motion by Carol Ralph, Seconded by Annette Lubsen, to purchase plant sale and garden tour signs not to exceed \$600. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **X. Announcements**

- A.** Carol Ralph. Mike Sands (who had Orchids at the Tropical Short Course) is managing the South Florida Orchid and Garden Show, 9067 Southern Blvd. May 10 & 11. Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 9-4. Entry Fee is \$10. He is asking if WGC would like to have an information table at this event. The cost is \$100 for the table. Decision was made not to participate in this event.
- B.** Maria Wolfe informed there is a three garden tour sponsored by the Greater Palm Beach Rose Society all day on May 5. Entry is \$15.00. Homes in Sympatic Park, Legend Lakes (with 400 Roses), and third a little farther south. Maria has the flyer. Hoping one of these three will be on our garden tour.
- C.** Stormi advised there are two orchestra tickets that have become available for TKA "Best of Broadway". A matinee on Saturday, 4/5, at 1pm. Price is \$42 each.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:41am**

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