

MINUTES OF CALUSA GARDEN CLUB SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

September 17, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.

- 1) President Sara Wolf called to order a Special Board Meeting of Calusa Garden Club of Marco Island by Zoom on September 17 at about 10:10 a.m. There were 8 Board members present, including more than 3 officers and 8 committee chairs.
- 2) Permission to Hold Meetings for 2020-2021 Club Year through Electronic Means. On motion made by Linda Colombo, seconded by Lindy Kowalczyk, and approved by those present, the following motion was adopted:

Motion: That Calusa Garden Club of Marco Island may hold meetings of the membership, the Board, and committees by internet platforms such as Zoom or GoToMeeting, or by telephone, for the 2020-2021 Club Year, and those meetings will be accepted as official meetings.

- 3) Approval of Board Meeting Minutes for February 2, 2020 and March 3, 2020. On motion made by Sue Oldershaw, seconded by Lindy Kowalczyk, and approved by those present, the following motion was adopted:

Motion: That the minutes of the Board Meetings of February 2, 2020 and March 3, 2020 be approved with the corrections noted by President Sara Wolf.

- 4) Appointment by the President of Officers to fill Unexpired Terms. Upon motion by Sara Wolf, seconded by Lindy Kowalczyk, and approved by those present, the following motion was adopted:

Motion: That the appointments by the President Sara Wolf of Annette Kuhn as Treasurer and Margie Bramel as Assistant Treasurer to fulfill the unexpired terms of their predecessors who resigned their offices, be ratified by this Board.

- 5) Discussion regarding Vacant Secretary Position: The Board discussed the issue that at present, there is no acting or official Secretary of the Club due to the resignation of previous secretary Rhea Brekke. Sara Wolf stated that the Corresponding Secretary prefers not to assume that full duties of that position. During a discussion, members suggested that members may be willing to be an appointed secretary for one meeting only. President Wolf agreed to try to recruit members to serve as interim secretary for one Board meeting and one regular meeting.

- 6) Waiver of Requirement of Seven Meeting in 2019-2020. Upon motion made by Linda Colombo and Seconded by Susan LaGrotta, and approved by those present, the following motion was adopted:

Motion: That requirements of the ByLaws of Calusa Garden Club of Marco Island in Article VI, Meetings, to have seven meetings in a Club Year, be waived for the 2019-2020 Club Year, and that the requirements are deemed to have been satisfied by six meetings in view of the cancellation of the April 2020 meeting due to the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown government orders.

- 7) Waiver of Requirement for Annual Financial Review for 2019-2020. Upon motion made by Lindy Kowalczyk and seconded by Susan LaGrotta, after discussion and affirmative vote by those present, the following motion was adopted:

Motion: That the annual review of Club's yearly financial statements made by club members who are not the Treasurer or President and occurring in May be waived for the 2019-2020 Club Year in view of the cancellation of meetings after March 15, 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic shutdown government orders.

- 8) Yearbook Publication for 2020-2021. President Wolf reported that since the Club had abruptly terminated activities in April, plans for the 2020-2021 Yearbook were not completed. She and Eva Kubinsky, yearbook chairperson, recently discussed not having a hard-backed Yearbook published for 2020-2021. Eva presented her idea that a Yearbook would be available on the Website in a format that could be printed for those members who wish to keep a paper Yearbook on hand. The members discussed the contents of the website Yearbook, which should include the 2020-2021 meeting and event calendar, the list of committees and committee chairpersons, and the member directory (which some members noted is currently on the website). The members also pointed out that this change will require the President to direct the members' attention to the website, to encourage the members to keep current their website member I.D. and password, and to communicate that the Yearbook may be printed out by members for their use during the year. On motion made by Linda Colombo and seconded by Lindy Kowalczyk, the following motion was approved by those present:

Motion: That for the 2020-2021 Club Year, Calusa Garden Club will not publish a traditional Yearbook, but instead will publish an online Yearbook on the member section of the Club website *Calusa.org*, with information including the calendar, the member directory, and other essential information. Club members may access the online Yearbook at any time and, in addition, they may print out the 2020-2021 Yearbook at their convenience.

- 9) Approval of Calendar for 2020-2021. President Wolf presented the proposed 2020-2021 meeting and event calendar for comment. The Board members suggested the meetings listed were too long since the meetings were to be held on Zoom. The members agreed to add a New Member Orientation in October or early November and the Library Floral Design demonstration in November. The consensus was that Zoom member and board meetings should begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at noon. With those changes, the Board approved the calendar for inclusion in the 2020-2021 Yearbook by consensus.

- 10) Approval of Proposed Budget for 2020-2021. President Wolf presented the Budget for 2020-2021 that was proposed by the Finance Committee (copy attached, labeled as "revised Sept. 15, 2020"). The Board members had several questions and suggestions. After discussion, the proposed budget was changed by (1) adding \$200 as line 32.5 in Expense to purchase one or more trees for Florida Arbor Day; (2) decreasing Yearbook expense in line 59 from \$700 to \$100; (3) increasing Plant Sale expense in line 55 to \$500, and (4) adding a line item for Special Events in both the Income and Expense categories. Upon motion made by Linda Colombo, seconded by Eva Kubinsky, the Proposed Budget for 2020-2021 was approved as amended by the Board. President Wolf stated that she would make the amendments as authorized and furnish the revised Budget to the Treasurer, the Yearbook chairman, the Newsletter chairman, and the Website chairman, and would present the "Budget, revised Sept. 17, 2020" to the membership for approval at the October 12 meeting.

- 11) Approval of Plant and Thanksgiving Arrangement Sale to occur Tuesday, November 24. President Wolf discussed the Plant and Thanksgiving Arrangement Sale that has been planned for November 24. The idea for the sale was discussed over the summer of 2020 informally by members, and a committee was formed. President Wolf asked the Board for approval of the project and by consensus, the Board members approved Calusa Garden Club undertaking the Plant and Thanksgiving Arrangement Sale on November 24.

- 12) Approval of Member Home Garden Tour and Plant Sale to occur Thursday, March 18, 2021. President Wolf proposed a new fundraising community activity for the Club to occur Thursday, March 18, 2021. It would be a member home garden tour, outdoor only, open to the public. A plant sale could be included as a fundraiser, and our Gardening Guides would also be sold. Small buses holding 25 people would drive to from 4 to 6 gardens chosen by the committee (to be formed) and to the Butterfly Garden. One issue is whether with Covid-19 epidemic, community members will want to be enclosed in a bus with others. After discussion, the Board's consensus was that the activity was a good idea, but we should wait until we see what happens with our national response to the Covid-19 pandemic before approving the project. The Club will need to recruit a committee chairperson. The matter was tabled until a future meeting.

- 13) Motion to Add New Special Committee: Marco Town Center Beautification Committee (Sharon Lewis, Chair). President Wolf presented information about Marco Town Center's owner Brixmor Property Group wanting to work with Calusa Garden Club of Marco Island to establish a landscaped open space area for the community within their shopping center. Sharon Lewis would like to chair that committee if and when Brixmor Property Group makes its plans more concrete. After discussion, the Board agreed to consider that opportunity at a later date when more information about the project is available.

- 14) Adjournment. After announcing that an additional Board Meeting would be held on October 5, 2020, by Zoom, to consider ByLaws revisions, Officer Reports and Committee Reports, President Wolf adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.

Minutes submitted by Sara Wolf, President.

NEXT MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Monday, October 5 - Board Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom

Monday, October 12 – General Member Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom