

Approved December 12, 2024
CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
November 18, 2024, 10:30 AM
Marco Island Library, Rose Hall

- 1) 10:40 Call to Order Kimberly Porter, President
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Welcome and Gratitude – grateful for outpouring of kindness during recovery.
- 4) **Approved Minutes from October 14th, 2024 General Meeting.**
- 5) Officer reports
 - a) President – Kimberly Porter
 - b) First VP & Program Chair – Nancy Adams
 - Today's Program – Easy Floral Design Demonstration by Connie Lowery.
 - Recycle bags given out complements of Tony McCormick who dropped them off this summer.
 - See Nancy to obtain plant tags.
 - c) Second VP & Membership Chair – Janet Watson
 - Three guests/prospectives in attendance: Tina Hatlestad, Linda Scherzinger, and Ann Sepe.
 - Birthday this month – Gloria Fabijanic
 - d) Treasurer's Report – Margie Bramel
 - Presented 2024-2025 Board recommended budget for approval.
 - Reviewed proposed income, some line items are balanced out by expense such as the holiday luncheons.
 - Total income projected of \$30,550.00 plus operating fund balance at \$15,816 as of May 1.
 - **Approved The 2024-2025 Budget.** Linda Colombo moved to approve budget as recommended by Board, Nanette Baumgardner seconded. Membership approved with one nay.
 - The approved 2024-2025 Budget will be added to the website under Member Resources.
 - e) The president reminded anyone spending their own money on items such as for the raffle, maintaining the gardens, etc., should give a note to Kimberly Porter even if the member is donating it, it should be tracked as an 'in kind' contribution so a full awareness of expenses is made.
 - f) Corresponding Secretary – Marianne Foley – no report this month
- 6) Committee Reports:
 - a) Civic Beautification
 - Butterfly Garden – Susan LaGrotta –
 - Gave thanks to everyone who attended 15th anniversary, and the many Calusa Garden Club members, family, friends, city and community involved in the Butterfly Garden over the last 15 years. Susan gave a brief history of how this first public butterfly garden in Collier County came to be and the Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the city of Marco Island.
 - Eco Tots – Kathy McNabb
 - Kathy along with Gretchen Nash guided the Eco Tots club at Tommy Bahamas. They took caterpillars over on milkweed which kids loved. The tomatoes planted in September are doing great, they need cages. For the next monthly session they would like to do container planting, so looking for large container donations that are paintable.
 - b) Member Enrichment
 - Floral Design Workshops - Lindy Kowalczyk- next workshop on Monday Nov, 25th to make 1-2 table arrangements, one for the sale and one for the plant sale. Table decoration arrangements need

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oval, lower height vases. Also bring long cuttings like ferns or palm branches that hang over the side to cover the container. Meet at New Life Community church, enter through side kitchen.

- Gadabouts –Jennifer Ferrier/Valerie Aquis
 - Reviewed brief overview of Entire year sign ups, Noted that Jennifer personally pre-bought tickets for peace aglow. Cost is \$25 per person and is scheduled for Friday evening December 13th. Pay Jennifer directly, can bring family or friends. 11 sold so far and have 15 tickets
 - Raffles will be different going forward. 3 plant items and 2 other items. No need for additional donated items at this time.
- Environmental – Nancy Reynolds – No report, out of town.
- Horticulture Workshop- Marisa Iwicki- Friday November 22 at 10:00 a.m. Leigh Plummer Park- Matthew Bailey of Bonita Bromeliads- bring your own chair. Bromeliads will be available for sale.

c) Member Events – Kathy McNabb

- Our holiday luncheon is Thursday, December 12, from 11:30-2:00 at La Tavola restaurant. Our theme is ‘Winter Garden Luncheon’. We will have a 50/50, general raffle and our traditional (optional) gift exchange. Sign up started today at member meeting and online. Through Dec 3rd.
 - Invitations were sent via special email. At the November 18 meeting: with cash or check (\$42.00).
 - Online at calusa.org beginning November 18. (\$43.52 by credit card).
 - Or register online at calusa.org, then send a check (\$42.00) to our treasurer Margie Bramel.
 - ❖ Please make your reservation by December 3. And mail check to arrive by then.
- Payment is your RSVP. Gift exchange is \$15 max.
- (ii) Audrina is co-chair and brings lots of fun.

• Member Meeting Hospitality –Maura Kelley

- Thanked the members who helped with the November luncheon: Margie, Monna, Liz, Valerie, Marisa, Lindy, and Diane. For next lunches and what to bring or donate, see Maura Kelley. No cooking required, can bring drinks, donate money to purchase items. Maura reminded all that required to sign up to contribute for a meeting.

d) Ways and Means – Sara Wolf

- Sara Wolf reviewed the schedule and preparations for Tuesday, November 26th Plant and Thanksgiving Arrangement Sale. She thanked Nancy Adams who took charge when Sara was unable along with early help from Margie Bramble, Linda Turner, Donna Kay, Susan Neustadt, and Kimberly Porter.
- Charlette Roman will have a few vanilla orchid cuttings, Erik Jadaszewski from Everglades Native Design LLC, a commercial grower, will also be there and will have native plants with a portion going to the CGC.

e) Publicity – Sara Wolf – Kimberly thanked Carol Donegan for the publicity.

f) Meeting Raffles – Jen Ferrier

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

11:43 am Meeting Adjourned