

Approved March 3rd, 2025

CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 6th, 10:30 AM
Marco Island Public Library, Rose Hall

- 1) 10:32 a.m. call to Order Kimberly Porter, President
- 2) Quorum Established, Debbie Kuhlman, Recording Secretary
- 3) Pledge of Allegiance
- 4) Welcome and Gratitude, Kimberly Porter, President
 - a) The Nominating Committee is forming. Audrina Flowers and Maura Kelley are participating. One additional person, a board member, is needed.
- 5) **Approved Minutes of December 2nd, Board Meeting with corrections to typos.**
- 6) Officer reports
 - a) President – Kimberly Porter-
 - b) First VP & Program Chair – Nancy Adams
 - i) Charlette Roman ‘Let’s Talk Water !!’ A 30-40 min talk followed by questions.
 - ii) Article submitted for newspaper. Nancy will post signs and notify the library on day of event. Not allowed to make a speaker monetary donation but allowed a small gift.
 - c) Second VP & Membership Chair – Janet Watson
 - i) Janet presented 1 new applicant. **Board Approved by consensus new member Brenda Mcglade.** Susan LaGrotta and Linda Colombo are her sponsors.
 - ii) Discussion that it’s Membership Chair’s discretion for when best to order name tags, what gift for new members, and how to best acknowledge birthdays. Suggestions for a limited, 15 person max, first come first serve, new member get-together such as lunch.
 - d) Treasurer & Finance Chair – Margie Bramel
 - i) Margie presented cash flow, spending and balances through December 31, 2024.
 - ii) Net profit of \$2,486.99 for Plant and Flower Arrangement Sale.
 - iii) Noted an anonymous \$600 donation earmarked for LPP and Blue Star Marker (\$300 allocated to each)
 - e) Corresponding Secretary – Marianne Foley
 - i) Get well card to Sara Wolf, Thank you cards to Allyson Richards, Barbara and Mike Murphy, Pam Long and Kathy Meskunus for lending tents and Denise Jefferies of Bella Floral.
 - ii) Campership application deadline approaching. Discussions regarding past efforts, budget, and options. Budgeted to send 2 students at \$350 camp cost plus \$50 gas card. Motion failed to send \$800 to Wekiva as a scholarship.
 - iii) **Approved motion to publicize the local interest in Wekiva, if response within 1 month okay (fund camper), if no response, or not enough applicants to utilize the \$800 budgeted, send the remainder to Wekiva.** Discussion followed. The majority ayes, 1 abstain. Sara to send publicity to teachers and principals.
 - f) Communications Secretary – Vacant
- 7) Committee Reports:
 - a) Civic Beautification
 - i) Florida Arbor Day – Waiting to approve location for tree for the January 17 event.

- ii) DATE CHANGE for LPP garden maintenance- moved to Thursday January 16 to clean up prior to Arbor Day.
- iii) Pioneer Garden at MIHS – Kimberly Porter reported status of CGC to redesign, plant and work with the landscaping company. Linda Turner is donating a lime tree, MIHS will match funds up to \$500.
 - (1) **Approved that CGC donate materials, up to \$500, toward Pioneer Garden at MIHS** by consensus. Note, funds are response to a match from MIHS director, Pat Rutledge.
- iv) Pineapple Days at MIHS on February 1. CGC participating, selling Gardening Guides.
- v) Blue Star Memorial Marker - Linda Colombo
 - (1) CGC was recently contacted by veteran Joe B. regarding taking on maintenance of the Blue Star Memorial Marker in the Veterans. Park. Board discussion and did not see need to maintain. Since the re-install at the new Veteran's Park, the city has maintained; current plantings around it are nice. Could suggest adding plants for color in front of sign such as horizontal blue porterweed, red/orange ixora, and a white annual. Consider CGC could partner with city or vets as a joint funded, partnership to add color out front. The city maintains landscaping. CGC maintains marker.
 - (2) **Approved by consensus to respond to veteran, thanking him for his praise, but CGC is not able to take over maintenance (of Blue Star Marker in Veterans Park) but looking into recommending plants in cooperation with city.** President will response to the veteran and cc all board members via e-mail.
- b) Communication and Technology
 - i) Publicity – Sara Wolf
- c) Community Education and Outreach – Marianne Foley
- d) Member Enrichment
 - i) Gadabouts – Sue Oldershaw –
 - (1) Friday January 24 – Trip to a new plant native nursery, lunch at Buckingham Farm (hydroponics), final nursery (succulents).
 - (2) Sue asked that Sara Wolf notify chairmen several days prior to an event. Sara Wolf agreed to do this.
 - ii) Horticulture – Sue Oldershaw for Marisa Iwicki and Janet Altman
 - (1) Since co-chairs are new, they have coordinated going to the UF/IFAS Master Gardener workshop series. It is \$40 for 9 lectures and a final garden tour. Sponsors, please call your members to encourage them to attend workshops to learn and be a knowledgeable garden club member.
 - (2) Suggestion for a 'horticulture minute' to read the current months pointers from the gardening guide.
 - iii) Environmental – Nancy Reynolds will give a short talk regarding coyote problem on the island.
 - iv) Floral Design – Lindy Kowalczyk no report, out sick.
 - (1) Winter Delight design- whites and greens, rhythmic. More details to follow.
- e) Member Events – Audrina Flowers
 - i) Inventory and Storage – Margie Bramel
 - (1) Materials are gathered and stored in one location. A new smaller spinner was purchased for the Plant Sale. The one used in the past is broken and unusable. An inquiry was made as the ownership of wheel so the owner could be contacted to

determine what to do with it. Members who may have CGC items are requested to notify Margie Bramel so items can be added to the inventory list. We have supplies that should be used before purchasing new ones.

ii) Spring Luncheon dates under consideration April 10 or 17 at MI Yacht Club.

f) Ways & Means – Sara Wolf

i) Gardening Guides pricing – Sara Wolf presented cost and history sheet for Garden Guides. The Board **Approved change in Garden Guide price from \$10 to \$5 by consensus.**

8) Previous Business:

a) none

9) New Business:

a) Discussed formation of the three person Nominating committee, Linda Colombo volunteered to be the third person and will be the one needed from the board.

b) Pineapple Day at MIHS will take place February 1st.

c) Discussion regarding consideration of General Meeting space change but will leave any review up to next board. In the meantime, Linda Colombo will gather information on options.

d) Maura Kelly brought up concern regarding difficulty in getting all members to contribute for meeting lunches. Reviewed list of members who have not contributed to the light lunches. During the application process, need to emphasize volunteering.

10) Adjourned at 12:36 pm

Approved by: Kimberly Porter, President

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Kuhlman, Recording Secretary