

Approved February 10, 2025
CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND
MEMBER MEETING MINUTES
January 13, 2025, 10:30 AM
Marco Island Public Library, Rose Hall

- 1) Called to Order at 10:38 a.m. Kimberly Porter, President
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Welcome and Gratitude
 - a) Welcomed all new visitors
- 4) **Approved Minutes** from December 12, 2024 Member Meeting
- 5) Officer reports
 - a) President – Kimberly Porter
 - Noted work on Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for Pioneer Garden and LPP.
 - Arbor Day this Friday with tree planting at LPP.
 - b) First VP & Program Chair – Nancy Adams
 - Our January 13th program was “Let’s Talk Water: An Introduction to the South Florida Water District” presented by Charlette Roman.
 - February speakers are Sue Oldershaw and Donna Kay on invasive plants and what plants survived the saltwater surge.
 - c) Second VP & Membership Chair – Janet Watson
 - Welcomed five guests – Beth Horvath, Barbara Perez, Monica Ninker, Susan D (Dee) Luccisano, and Maria Tela.
 - **Induction of New Member** Brenda Mcglade. Sponsors are Linda Colombo and Susan LaGrotta.
 - January Birthday – Nancy Adams
 - d) Treasurer’s Report – Margie Bramel
 - Cash flow, balances, reserve and allocations covered as of 12/31/2025.
 - e) Corresponding Secretary – Marianne Foley
 - Get Well card sent to Sara Wolf and Sandy Wallen, thank yous sent for tents.
 - College scholarships for high schoolers- reviewed requirements and let others know.
 - LPP moved cleanup day from Saturday to Thursday in preparation for Arbor Day.
 - f) Recording Secretary – Debbie Kuhlman
 - Note that updated pdf of member list as of 1/2/2025 is posted at calusa.org
 - President noted that she will mail to members if they aren’t actively using the website.
- 6) Committee Reports:
 - a) Civic Beautification
 - Florida Arbor Day -Friday, January 17, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. – Sue Oldershaw
 - Planting a native Mastic Tree.
 - Pioneer Garden at MIHS - Kimberly Porter
 - Kimberly Porter and Linda Turner did an initial clean up. Will also participate in Pineapple Day at MIHS.
 - Butterfly Garden – Susan LaGrotta
 - January maintenance (and some fund raiser planning) on January 25th at 8:30 am
 - b) Communication and Technology
 - Publicity – Sara Wolf
 - Thanks to Carole Donegan on recent articles in Coastal Breeze, Marco Eagle.
 - Share any photos taken at events with Sara Wolf. Sara can add on calusa.org blog.
 - Planning general publicity and social media (FB) to solicit Camp Wekiva campership applicants.

Approved February 10, 2025

c) Community Education and Outreach – Marianne Foley

- Eco Tots – Kathy McNabb
 - Two volunteers needed, Friday, January 24, from 8am sharp until 9:20am, to assist with 1st and 2nd grade Eco Tots club at Tommy Barfield. Club participation is growing.
 - Thanks to Grethen Nash and Margie Bramel for assisting and thanks to Nancy Adams for growing the ornamental pineapples.

d) Member Enrichment

- Gadabouts – Sue Oldershaw/ Jen Ferrier
 - Friday January 24, to nurseries near Fort Myers, lunch is at a hydroponic nursery.
- Horticulture – Janet Altman/ Marisa Iwicki
 - UF/IFAS Garden Workshop Series – shared the first workshop on Tillandsias, Dennis Cathcart and his plant exploits. Contact if interested in carpooling. Pay UF/IFAS by cash, check or link.
 - Sea Lavendar (endangered native): it survived surge well. Like to track any propagation success.
 - Monthly Garden – Marisa reviewed the January garden tips from Gardening Guide.
- Environmental – Nancy Reynolds
 - Shared coyote status on Marco Island and suggestions from FWC.
- Floral Design – Lindy Kowalczyk (covered at beginning)
 - January 27 Winter Wonderland design theme. Multi rhythmic (repetitive), creative design, can Google for designs and motivation.

e) Member Events – Kathy McNabb

- Holiday luncheon- Kathy McNabb
 - Thanked all for helping with the holiday luncheon. Introduced Audrina Flowers.
- Spring Luncheon - Audrina Flowers
 - April 10 or 17 are possible dates for the Spring luncheon.
- Member Meeting Hospitality – Maura Kelley
 - Thanks for all the wonderful contributions today and in past. March need help with Irish theme.

f) Ways & Means – Sara Wolf thanked committee

- Gardening Guides new price, reduced from \$10 to \$5.
- Calusa Garden Club Market – Ellen van Nagell – can go on website for CGC marketplace items.
- Plant Sale – Final result, profit of \$2,480. Noted made \$2,000 less than last year. Needed more plants.

g) Meeting Raffles – Jen Ferrier/ Valerie Aquis

- Summarized items. \$1/1 ticket, 6 tickets for \$5.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Introduction and thanks for nominating committee – Kimberly Porter
 - Linda Colombo, Audrina Flowers and Maura Kelley,
 - Nominating Chair report – Linda Colombo
 - Contact Linda – will be in email blast. Slated needed for February Board meeting, then present to General Meeting, vote and approve in March.
 - Thanks to Susan Ridyard for AV work today.

President: Kimberly Porter

Respectfully submitted: Debbie Kuhlman