

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

- 1) 10:34 AM Meeting Called to Order Kimberly Porter, President
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Welcome and Gratitude -
- 4) **Approved Minutes** from January 13, 2025 Member Meeting via consensus.
- 5) Officer reports
 - a) President – Kimberly Porter
 - First Pioneer Garden work group is February 15, from 9-11 AM. Linda Turner donated a lime tree.
 - b) First VP & Program Chair – Kimberly Porter for Nancy Adams
 - The Program for February covered, “Plants You Should Know,” on locally invasive plants as well as aggressive plants. The speakers were Donna Kay and Sue Oldershaw.
 - c) Second VP & Membership Chair – Janet Watson
 - February Birthday celebration for Nanette and Jane.
 - Prospective members and guests - Heather Mackenzie, Laura Frazier, Susan Ray, and Heidi Vollmer.
 - **Inducted 2 New Members:**
 - Monica Ninker, sponsors Nancy Adams
 - Susan D. Luccisano, sponsors Opi DeFalco and Gloria Fabijanic.
 - d) Treasurer’s Report – Margie Bramel
 - Noted that the annual dues are coming March 1, due by April 1- can bring check at March meeting.
 - The monthly Financial statement showed balance as of January 29, 2025 of \$25,700.54.
 - e) Corresponding Secretary – Marianne Foley
 - Sent “Thinking of you” to Laura Furlong due to mother’s health.
- 6) Committee Reports:
 - a) Civic Beautification
 - Butterfly Garden – Susan LaGrotta- absent
 - b) Communication and Technology
 - Publicity – Sara Wolf
 - Thanked Carol Donegan for press release about the speaker for today’s meeting.
 - Publicity committee needs 1-2 more volunteer reporters to send notices to papers.
 - c) Community Education and Outreach – Marianne Foley
 - MOU from Marco Island for LPP is nearing completion and expected to be reviewed at next Board Meeting. Impacts plant removals and selections.
 - Eco Tots – Kathy McNabb
 - 19 children at January club session. Susie Baker and Barbara Perez covered the “Tops and Bottoms” lesson. February 21 is the next class.
 - d) Member Enrichment
 - Gadabouts – Sue Oldershaw/ Jen Ferrier-
 - February 18 at Calusa Nature Center- Butterfly and Birds of Prey Aviary.
 - Planning on Gadabout to Edison Ford next year.
 - March Gadabouts to Naples Garden Club Flower Show, and Bromeliad Garden.
 - Horticulture –Janet Altman/ Marisa Iwicki
 - Managing Ponds the Florida Friendly Way is the next Master Gardener topic at the South Regional Library.

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- Rhonda Gloodt added that the Edibles topic was well done by Justin Soucek from Nursery Greener Hills in Golden Gate. They do taste testing on Saturdays and Sundays.
- Environmental – Susan Ridyard for Nancy Reynolds
 - Iguana report given. A side note, member spouses also help eradicate iguanas: “Down Goes the Iguana”- John Johnson, Eva Kubinsky’s husband, for a \$50 fee. Liz Clancy’s husband Tom also helps to eradicate iguanas for free.
- Floral Design – Sue Oldershaw for Lindy Kowalczyk
 - Miniature (5-8” tall container) Floral Design Workshop February 24th at 9:00.
- e) Member Events – Kathy McNabb introduced
 - Spring Luncheon - Audrina Flowers
 - April 17 at Marco Island Yacht Club 11-2. Menu and details next meeting.
 - Member Meeting Hospitality – Maura Kelley
 - Irish or green foods for March theme.
- f) Ways & Means – Sara Wolf
 - Looking for chairman for Garden Tour next year. Will not have Garden Tour this year.
 - J McLaughlin sip and shop event March 11th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - Valerie Aguis is chairing. Sign up to assist. Bring friends to shop!
 - CGC Market – Ellen van Nagell
 - Gardening Guide price reduced, remainder to sell from 2019- reduced from \$10 to \$5.
- g) Meeting Raffles – Jen Ferrier/ Valerie Aguis
 - The raffle plant is Bahama Firebush.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Nominating Committee – Linda Colombo, Audrina Flowers, Maura Kelley
 - Linda Colombo- read the By laws Article VII - Elections.
 - **2025-2027 Slate of Officers**
 - (a) President – vacant
 - (b) First VP/ Programs – Diane Chestnut
 - (c) Second VP/ Membership – Valerie Aguis
 - (d) Treasurer – Margie Bramel
 - (e) Assistant Treasurer – Nancy Adams
 - (f) Recording Secretary – Ann Sepe
 - (g) Corresponding Secretary – Kimberly Porter
 - (h) Communications Secretary – Susan Neustadt
 - Linda stated nominations from the floor for each position were open. **Sharon Lewis nominated Linda Colombo for President.** No other nominees.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Marco In Bloom nominations through March 19 per Linda Scherzinger, who is also a member of Marco Island Beautification Advisory Committee (BAC). Public is encouraged to attend, BAC or City Council meetings to help influence tree selections and placements.
- Linda also mentioned Marco Nature Night is March 19th.
- Sara Wolf – Encouraged the next generation to volunteer and make a vibrant garden club.

ADJOURNMENT- 11:44 a.m.

Approved: Kimberly Porter

Respectfully submitted: Debbie Kuhlman, Recording Secretary