

APPROVED April 17, 2025
CALUSA GARDEN CLUB OF MARCO ISLAND
MEMBER MEETING MINUTES
March 10, 2025, 10:30 AM
Marco Island Public Library, Rose Hall

- 1) Call to Order at 10:37 a.m. Kimberly Porter, President
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Welcome and Gratitude, Kimberly Porter, President
 - a) Thanks for all the work done to make this year's meetings a success.
- 4) **Approved Minutes from February 10, 2025 Member Meeting as submitted.**
- 5) Officer reports
 - a) President – Kimberly Porter
 - March 11-13 - Deep South Garden Clubs, Inc 2025 Annual Convention, Valdosta, GA; likely no attendees from Calusa Garden Club.
 - April 7-10 – FFGC, Inc. 2025 Annual Convention, Jacksonville, FL
 - District meeting – Will be in May and new members are encouraged to attend as these district meetings are more local.
 - b) First VP & Program Chair –Nancy Adams
 - The speaker for March 10th is Rebecca Mazeroski, Museum Manager of Marco Island Historical Museum, who will speak on Pioneer Gardens on Marco Island.
 - c) Second VP & Membership Chair – Sue Oldershaw for Janet Watson
 - **Inducted New Member: Barbara Perez**, sponsors Kathy McNabb and Susie Baker.
 - The prospective member/guest in attendance was Laura Frazier.
 - Reminder, Membership dues paid by March 31 for 2025-2026 season.
 - Can combine check for dues and luncheon.
 - d) Treasurer's Report – Margie Bramel
 - The bank balance as of February 26, 2025 is \$25,169.00: \$13,081.00 General Operating, \$10,000.00 General Operating Reserve,\$1,321 Blue Star Marker, \$279.00 Leigh Plummer Park, and \$488.00 uncleared checks.
 - e) Corresponding Secretary – Marianne Foley
 - Get well card sent to Kimberly, and also to Barbara Messner who had a fall. Let Marianne know of any others who may need a card.
- 6) Committee Reports:
 - a) Civic Beautification
 - Butterfly Garden – Nancy Adams for Susan LaGrotta
 - Wish list: seed library, deck box that is at least 6' long for tools.
 - March 29, 2025 at 8:30 work group
 - Rhonda Gloodt – 5 new butterflies seen at her garden!
 - b) Communication and Technology
 - Publicity – Sara Wolf
 - Thanks to Carol Donegan meeting publicity. Sara asked for additional volunteer or two to help with articles to write and submit to newspapers.
 - c) Community Education and Outreach – Marianne Foley
 - Scholarship application cutoff date is March 15, 2025.
 - LPP- parking lot torn out, possible effect to trees as roots were also impacted. Work group this Saturday March 15. Caution, no parking in front, plenty of parking in rear of park on Piedmont Circle. President Porter said the MOU was still on Park and Rec's Desk. President okayed the committee to continue with plantings that were on hand and not delay for the final MOU.

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Discussion regarding hand watering (bring 2, gallon jugs of water to park) of Arbor Day tree- CGC members currently ensuring coverage of water of this newly planted tree.

- Eco Tots – Kathy McNabb
 - Following a special request to beautify the school property in preparation for Leadership Day Celebration, several CGC members volunteered. Susie Baker, Barbara Perez, Sue Oldershaw, Donna Kay, Linda Turner, helped Kathy make this happen.
 - Tommy Barfield Elementary School also asked for extra class.
 - Bonnie Colman and Marianne Foley delivered 3 floral arrangements for the event. Please send photos to Sara Wolf.

d) Member Enrichment

- Gadabouts – Sue Oldershaw/ Jen Ferrier/Valerie Aguis
 - March 14 - Gadabouts – Naples Garden Club Flower Show at Naples Botanical Garden.
 - March 31, Lyle Bowen Bromeliads, pups also sold for \$5-10; when sign up, please give your phone and ability to drive.
- Horticulture –Marisa Iwicki
 - Native Plants at Janet Alman’s home- CANCELLED
 - Wrapping up horticulture series with the Garden tour. The Gardening for Birds workshop was very informative.
 - Marisa gave March garden reminders to fertilize grass and palms, not flowering plants, prune, and it’s the last month to plant tomatoes.
- Environmental – Nancy Reynolds
 - Provided fun facts on Marco Island Bottlenose Dolphins.
- Floral Design - Lindy Kowalczyk
 - Floral Design Workshop: Cascade Designs at 9:00, New Life Community Church.
 - Thank those who did the petite floral design workshop.
 - Looking to move next workshop to March 24th as it conflicts with the Gadabouts event.

e) Member Events – Kathy McNabb

- Island Style Spring Luncheon - Audrina Flowers and Kathy McNabb
 - Audrina Flowers announced she was stepping down from the member event for Spring Luncheon after expressing frustration with expectations and the process of selecting and planning after much time and effort on her part. The Marco Island Yacht Club as a venue did not materialize due to increased cost.
 - Kathy McNabb covered the new location, Fred and Nancy Adam’s home, which will be catered at about \$32/person.
 - Discussions continued regarding the expected costs. At 11:15 a.m. the parliamentarian called point of order. Detailed discussions to be covered outside of the General Meeting.
- Member Meeting Hospitality – Maura Kelley
 - Maura thanked everyone who participated this past year and noted a signup sheet for next year’s hospitality. Please select a date and sign up.

f) Ways & Means – Sara Wolf

- Valerie Aguis- J McLaughlin sip and shop is March 11, CGC table from 11-3, store open 10am - 6pm, J. McLaughlin donates 10% of sales to CGC. CGC will also be raffling a floral arrangement.
 - Last year raised \$900.
- CGC Market – Ellen van Nagell
 - Reminder garden guide reduced to \$5. Also the 2nd anniversary of online store is in August.

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- Ellen gave a challenge to buy 1 T-Shirt prior to the anniversary. It is now a direct transfer print instead of a screen print. The apron price was reduced by shrinking the logo and the price reduced by \$5 and is now \$30.
 - Rhonda noted that Ellen was recently in Honduras, in life threatening conditions, where she worked at an orphanage.
 - Sara noted a volunteer opportunity as CGC is looking for Ways and Means Chairman for next year.
 - Sara thanked Susan Ridyard for her AV support at the Member Meetings.
- g) Birthdays – Eva Kubinsky, Barbara Messner, Kathy McNabb, Linda Colombo, Lindy Kowalczyk, Susan Neustadt, Margie Bramel, and Linda Walker who turns the big 80 on March 16th!
- h) Meeting Raffles – Valerie Aguis – A rare plant, sun catcher, floral arrangement, bromeliad hanger and books donated by Linda Colombo.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- **The 2025-2027 Slate of Officers was Approved.** Recording Secretary, Debbie Kuhlman, cast one vote for the membership per the Bylaws, Article VII Elections paragraph 4.
- 2025-2027 Slate of Officers
President – Linda Colombo
First VP/ Programs – Diane Chestnut
Second VP/ Membership – Valerie Aguis
Treasurer – Margie Bramel
Assistant Treasurer – Nancy Adams
Recording Secretary – Ann Sepe
Corresponding Secretary – Kimberly Porter
Communications Secretary – Susan Neustadt

Marco Island BAC member, Linda Scherzinger -

- Marco in Bloom applications are due March 19; garden club members are encouraged to apply.
- Marco Nature Night is March 19th. CGC will have a table there. Rhonda Gloodt will be presenting on butterflies.
- Linda encouraged members to show up at city council meetings (First and Third Mondays), register to request 4 minutes, attend BAC meetings, or send emails if wanting input on items such as water in the Leigh Plummer Park. Currently budgets are being drafted and it is a great time for input.

ADJOURNMENT at 11:35 am

Approved: Kimberly Porter

Respectfully submitted: Debbie Kuhlman