

PENDING APPROVAL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 5, 2026

Call to order 11:06 am

Quorum established

Saluted flag

Attendees: Linda Colombo, Margie Bramel, Susan Ridyard, Brenda McGlade, Kimberly Porter, Nancy Adams, Susan Neustadt, Marisa Iwicki, Barbara Perez, Susan La Grotta, Valerie Aguis, Gloria Fabijanec, Marianne Foley, Kathy McNabb, Ellen van Nagell

Board Minutes from 12-1-2025 approved; S Ridyard noted spelling correction from Flid to Field.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT- Linda Colombo -

Reminder - Photo of officers and library plaque project outdoors.

Lindy Kowalczyk's Husband passed

Mary Raymond expected for 'leaf manipulation' program on Mon, Jan 12. Using Areca Palm fronds. Notify members to bring clippers/scissors/stapler

Reports needed from State & District Convention attendees.

Membership - Valerie Aguis / new member Kathleen Tuttle voted on & approved. Liz Clancy & Deb Kuhlman are sponsors. There are 4 additional prospective applicants.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Margie Bramel - Financials to date;

Two handouts to BOD - Plant & Floral Arrangement Sale and Treasurer Report May 2025 - December 2025

Plant sale history

Nov 2023 \$4284.19

Nov 2024 \$2487.04

Nov 2025 \$3068.75

Year to date income: \$25,400.20

Year to date expenses: \$10,838.54

\$300 rec'd from Sue Oldershaw through Landscape Design Consulting earmarked scholarships.

☐ ASSISTANT TREASURER - Nancy Adams / no report / will do tax notices

☐ CORRESPONDING SECRETARY- Kimberly Porter: 2 cards sent

☐ COMMUNICATIONS SECRETARY- Susan Neustadt

☐ RECORDING SECRETARY – Ann Sepe (not present)

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STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS- CIVIC BEAUTIFICATION

Brenda McGlade reported on Florida Arbor Day -planting of a Florida Native Cypress Tree on Jan 16. City is funding. Invitations sent to a number of government leaders. Flyer done.

Marianne Foley advised of donation of new bird bath by citizens. Also, needs call for help to spruce up existing Leigh Plummer gardens for Arbor Day

Butterfly Garden – Susan LaGrotta gave update on damages by city landscaper. In addition to cutting, spray also used. Repairs & recovery will be in stages. Maybe additional signage.

Memorial Markers at Sand Hill, and Blue Star- Gloria Fabijanic reported she goes by, and cleans/weeds as needed.

Pioneer Garden – Kathy McNabb - weeding: cleaning done as needed.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TECH. – SUSAN NEUSTADT

☐ Archives- Sara Wolf - no update

☐ Publicity –Carol Donegan, Dee Luccisano, Sara Wolf - Sara reported poster going to various businesses and CGC Friday Flash

Smoke Signals Newsletter- Barbara Perez - Dec slightly delayed due to travel & holidays.

COMMUNITY ED. AND OUTREACH – KATHY MCNABB

Junior Gardeners / Eco Tots – Kathy McNabb, Sue Baker, Gretchen Nash & Barbara Perez. We received a very nice holiday card from Ms. Lannon. Pres Colombo wants a photo of the 4 of us. First spring session class is Jan 30.

MEMBER ENRICHMENT – MARISA IWICKI

Horticulture – Marisa Iwicki . Marisa gave an update on the Collier County classes & workshops at the library on Lely Cultural Drive. Jan 8 - gardening for hummingbirds; Jan 20 - orchids taught by Nanette - bring pot; Kathy's Herbs - they are at Vanderbilt Market weekly.

MEMBER EVENTS – vacant

Marianne Foley will advertise scholarships.

Sara outlined dates: Art in Bloom at MI Center for Arts on Apr 9; Flower Show on Feb 27; Naples Art District Jan 16-18,

Susan Ridyard gave update on field trip to Fairchild Gardens, Miami. Feb 17, park at Catholic Church.

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Holiday Party - Margie Bramel and Liz Clancy report. Margie made Motion: "This year's holiday event will be on Thursday, Dec 10 at Player's Club at Lely". Board voted to approve.

WAYS AND MEANS – NO REPORT

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- .. Watermark – Linda Colombo made Motion: Proposed end of relationship as originally set up with Watermark. Will invite them to various events such as Art in Bloom, butterfly garden, etc.
- .. Sponsorship program

NEW BUSINESS:

- .. Election for 1st VP - discussion
- .. Pineapple Day participation on Jan. 31, Sat. 10:00 a.m. –1:00 p.m. Linda made Motion: Proposed that CGC participate and have a table at the event. Board voted yes. Susan Ridyard and Kathy McNabb will oversee.

Linda spoke about finding good candidate for 1st Vice President. Program chair background