

Calusa Garden Club
Marco Island Library, Rose Hall
Board Meeting Minutes
5/11/2026

Meeting called to order by Linda Colombo, President at 11:10am

Quorum Established, Ann Sepe, Recording Secretary

Meeting Minutes from April 2026, approved and filed.

Attendees: L. Colombo, M. Bramel, A. Sepe, S. Neustadt, M. Foley, K. McKnabb, M. Iwicki, V. Aguis, S. Wolf, S. LaGrotta, C. Bruni, G. Fabijanic

President's Report – Linda Colombo

Blue Star updated and planning re-dedication.

District IX attended well. Next Meeting September 21, 2026,

Thank you, letters, received from Camp attendees and Chairperson.

Linda announced Susan Ridyard resigned from board and Club.

2nd Vice President Report – Val Aguis

Membership numbers reported, 53 members 9 associate, 4 honorary.

Corresponding Secretary – Kimberly Porter – Provided report to President. 81 cards sent this year. 3 in May (did not provide names). Budget will remain the same.

Treasurer Report – Margie Bramel

Audit was completed, Kathy McNabb and Claudia Bruni assisted.

Margie reported on budget. Margie reported on monies needed to be spent.

Per Linda, Margie has reached out to all committee members regarding budget.

It was noted that Holly Dixon had paid for dues and did not attend required number of meetings. MOTION made by Sara Wolf. Seconded by Marissa Iwicki. Membership Chair to contact Holly regarding renewal not being accepted due to attendance requirements not being met. Motion carried.

Communications Secretary – Susan Neustadt

Provided Report to President

Ways and means – Sara Wolf reported that she was unsure of whether a Plant Sale would be held in the fall of 2026. She suggested alternate events and dates and agreed to chair the Ways and Means committee for 2026-2027. She suggested an ad hoc committee be formed during the summer months to discuss and recommend fundraising events for the club.

Art in Bloom-

Sara Wolf thanked all the participants who exhibited and all who worked on the committee for the April 9 event. When asked about 2027, she reported that the club may not present an Art in Bloom event in 2027 due to plans for a full flower show. Sara will chair a Flower Show in Spring of 2027. A National Garden Club Flower Show includes both floral designs and horticulture displays. Susan LaGrotta supplied information from the NGC website about the number of exhibits required in a Standard Flower Show.

Unfinished Business

MOTION by Susan Neustadt. Seconded by Sara.

To approve standing rules as presented,

Motion approved unanimously.

New Business

Discussion was held on plant donated to Leigh Plummer Park.

Claudia Bruni spoke on sponsorships. Discussion was held on proposed program. Claudia needs a committee that would start this summer. Sponsors would be on listed website, there would be sponsor cards, etc. Margie Bramel expressed concerns about monies being earmarked or put in general funds. This creates a situation for accounting and reporting. Ann mentioned if we limit sponsorship to a certain time of year it is similar to an annual appeal.

MOTION by Ann Sepe. Seconded by Sara.

To approve sponsorship program going forward and further develop.

Motion passed with one opposing vote.

Linda reminded all events are on website.

Linda noted if board member wishes to report at board meeting, they must let Linda know ahead of time. This keeps meeting to a limited time.

Barbara Perez providing fundraising details to board. More information to follow. Barbara has provided note cards.

Discussion was held on Honorary Member list.

It was suggested we have informal gadabouts held through the summer.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00

Ann Sepe, Recording Secretary