

Nottingham Country Garden Club
Board of Directors Meeting
August 27, 2012

Attendees: Sue Straub, Alice Brown, Madelyn Gardener, Marilyn Frueh, Gwen Heck, Donna Luther, Doris Netto, Jean Bays, Margaret Mason, Mary Lou Proctor, Lori Fay, Janet Blowers, Susie Griffin, Pat Plesko, Frankie Green, Kim Patrick, and Gayle Granger.

The meeting was called to order by Sue Straub who thanked our hostess, Donna Luther, and introduced two new board members: Kim Patrick, historian, and Doris Netto, hospitality.

Secretary: Marilyn Frueh

A correction to the May Board of Directors meeting minutes was made, changing the date from April 1 to April 30. The corrected minutes were then approved after a motion by Pat Plesko and seconded by Susie Griffin. Acceptance of the May monthly meeting minutes, without change, was moved by Doris Netto, seconded by Gayle Granger, and approved by the board.

Treasurer: Gwen Heck

The proposed budget for the 2012-2013 year was presented by the treasurer, Gwen Heck. After discussion, Alice Brown moved that \$50 be moved from miscellaneous expenses to membership to insure adequate funds for the new club directories. Frankie Green seconded the motion. The amended budget will be presented at the first club meeting for the membership's approval.

Membership: Mary Lou Proctor

Mary Lou Proctor reported 36 paid members for the 2012-2013 year. As they join, new members will receive a welcome letter, a printed copy of the newsletter, and a schedule of programs. Sue will call Pat Chislett to ask her to bring extra copies of the newsletter to the meeting. The new directory will be available to paid members at the October meeting. Kim, with the assistance of Shirley Parma, will take pictures of new members to be added to the directory. The board was asked for volunteers to do a head count of members and guests at each meeting to ensure accuracy.

Programs: Alice Brown and Madelyn Gardner

Alice Brown and Madelyn Gardner presented the schedule of the 2012-13 programs and extra activities. They agreed to the suggestion of separating the extra activities from the regular meetings to help clarify that these are for paid members and their personal guests only, not open to the general public. Marilyn Frueh said she had corks to be used for a potting tool for the November meeting. Frankie Green said she had dowels to contribute and volunteered to put the tool together.

Hospitality: Susie Griffin and Doris Netto

Susie Griffin and Doris Netto reported a fall/sunflower theme for the first meeting and asked for volunteers to bring food. Susie is missing a table cloth but, after learning the

tablecloth at the Brookwood May meeting was provided by Brookwood, will check further to see if she has overlooked it. She has purchased a new decaf coffee pot and will continue to look a new pot for hot water.

Newsletter: Pat Chislett

Pat Chislett was not present. Sue stressed that the newsletter is for club business only.

Federation: Donna Luther

Donna Luther reported that the next meeting is September 14. She will meet anyone who wishes to attend in the HEB parking lot at 9:00a.m.and provide limited transportation to the meeting. Meda Wogan will be the speaker with the subject of the Lewis and Clark expedition and the plants they discovered. There will be a free workshop on floral design after the meeting. The Lone Star Newsletter is now on line and is no longer printed. The website for the newsletter is texasgardenclubs.org.. The Houston Park Conservancy has approved construction of a new building with a 2015 completion date which will accommodate up to 200 attendees for various functions.

Fundraising: Janet Blowers and Lori Fay

Janet Blowers and Lori Fay will discontinue the raffle baskets, but will continue to accept all magazines and garden related books. Their plan is to focus on the plant sale and consider a bulb and/or seed sale. They will continue to ask for plant donations with recognition given to the donor nursery. Mary Lou Proctor will donate a small plumeria. Gwen suggested taking advantage of the 70% off sale at local nurseries, asking club members to nurture plants for raffle. They still have a cocoa set and a tea set donated by former member, Sandy Helsel. The suggestion for a “white elephant” sale was tabled for the October board meeting. It was suggested that additional gourds could be purchased for the workshop, painted in a holiday theme, and offered for sale.

\$1,155.68 was raised by the club last year.

Plant sale: \$526.65

Raffles: \$375.20

Shirts: \$197.08

Magazines \$ 56.75

Publicity: Pat Plesko

Pat Plesko said publicity for local publications is due the 25th, two months ahead of date of publication. Gwen Heck suggested adding publicity to neighborhood websites.

Historian: Kim Patrick

Kim Patrick has assumed this position.

Horticulture: Margaret Mason and Jean Bays

Margaret Mason and Jean Bays will have a table and encourage members to bring plants for display.

Sunshine: Ana Barrett

Ana Barrett was not present, but a card was sent to Joyce Merritt

Parliamentarian: Frankie Green

Frankie Green thanked Alice Brown for typing the By-laws.

Telephone: Gayle Granger and Ana Barrett

Gayle Granger reported that she and Ana Barrett will continue to call and will remind those who have not paid dues.

Old Business

1. Alice Brown and Frankie Green will work on the development of NCGC letterhead stationery, using logos on plain paper or card stock.
2. Frankie Green and Gayle Granger volunteered to serve to welcome new members and guests at the September meeting.
3. A \$50 check, approved in the budget, will be given to Donna Luther in October for the Federation poinsettia fund.

New Business

1. "Seeds for Life" Program will not ship seeds internationally due to customs regulations. Frankie Green suggested we donate to Federation instead of continuing to participate.
2. The suggestion to acknowledge women's health issues at monthly meeting was determined not to be in keeping with the club's purpose and was not approved.
3. The board will continue to meet at La Madeliene unless someone wishes to host a meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Marilyn Frueh

October 3, 2012