

Chappell Hill Garden Club General Meeting

July 9, 2025

President Dixie Ford called the meeting to order at 10 AM in Chappell Hill Methodist Church. She welcomed all and then presented a prayer, emphasizing prayers needed for those devastated by the floods throughout Central Texas, and then led the group in the pledge. A quorum was established with 22 members present. Minutes of the June 11 meeting were approved.

Shirley Rigamonti introduced the group of 2025 scholarship recipients and had everyone announce their name, school, and field of study. A photo of the group was taken to be sent to the Banner-Press.

Mary Smith introduced Dale Ramey for the program titled "An Evening in the Garden." Dale explained that gardens come to life at night with insect activity and that some plants release scents and have blooms when there is less light. She described a variety of suitable plants for the proposed garden space, saying white is typically used to attract night creatures. She also described color combinations that work well, and which blooms should be deadheaded. She also showed a 12-18" PVC pipe with holes that can be placed in flower beds, filled with water, and therefore lessen the time required to water with a hose.

Treasurer's Report: Kay reported Total Assets of \$53,315 with a bank balance of \$16,801. Year to date revenues of \$7,524 of which \$3,000 is from Tour Tickets from members and \$2,645 from the beer booth. Year to date expenses of \$14,708 of which \$14,000 went to Scholarships.

The Club received two letters from the Texas Comptroller's Office stating that CHGC owes sales tax of \$722.00, gross receipt tax of \$568, plus a late penalty for the total amount of \$1,309.00 for liquor sales so far in 2025. After investigation, Kay learned that the State of Texas is now enforcing a bill passed in 2021 because the Garden Club is a tax free organization that sponsored Lana McDaniel's beer booth, and the club is now responsible for this tax. The board decided to pay the tax owed and end the donation/sponsorship of liquor sales. Kay and Dixie contacted Lana McDaniel who sent Kay all records and information that Kay needed to fill out forms and pay the tax. Lana agreed to reimburse the club. This will result in a \$5,000 decrease in expected revenues for 2025.

July 4th Committee: Dixie expressed her thanks to everyone who worked on the float and participated in the parade. Despite her effort to bribe the judges with chocolate chip cookies, the club did not place but still received words of admiration from parade watchers who appreciated the "split" theme.

Main St.: Debi reminded all who had aprons to return them so they can be put back in storage. The next clean up day will be August 6 at 8 AM.

Fundraiser: Four locations are confirmed but still need 1-2 more. Kay again asked that members submit potential sponsor names to receive a sponsorship package currently planned to be mailed about August 15.

Programs: Mary reported the August program will be presentations by several Texas Brigade students. The September program is a field trip and lunch to Blackwood Educational Land Institute in Hempstead. More information and sign up at the August meeting.

Christmas Party: Sonjia explained that the committee decided to move the party on December 17 to Texas Star Winery.

Dixie then gave a brief summary of the survey results. A Mother/Daughter/Friend Tea showed up as a popular potential event, as did providing attention to the flower beds at 290 and FM 1155. Dixie said she will revisit options with the stakeholder committee she previously met with regarding the beds.

Dale Ramey asked members to call the EPA regarding unsafe conditions in the same area.

Dixie thanked the lunch committee of Shirley Rigamonti, Twyla Kingsley, Woody Taylor, Angela Rutland, and Sally English.

Bennie made a motion adjourn, Tom seconded and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 11:14 AM and lunch followed.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Boulware