Chappell Hill Garden Club Board

January 9, 2023

The Chappell Hill Garden Club Board meeting opened at 1:58. Present were Dale Ramey, Bennie Yates, Debi Faver, Shirley Rigamonti, Dixie Ford, Kay Hanson-Clerc, Lynda Harrison, and Carol Madeley.

Quorum was established.

Dale Ramey welcomed the new board members, Dixie and Kay.

Bennie moved that the Dec. 5 board minutes be approved. Dixie seconded the motion, which passed.

Bennie moved that the Jan. 5 text meeting minutes be approved. Shirley seconded the motion, which passed.

Officer Elections Lynda explained the process for officer elections. After discussion, Bennie moved that the following slate of officers be accepted: Dale Ramey, President; Dixie Ford, first vice president; Bennie Yates, second vice president; Lynda Harrison, treasurer; Kay Hanson-Clerc, assistant treasurer; and Carol Madeley, secretary. Lynda seconded the motion, which passed.

Home Tour The board discussed the home tour and agreed it was very successful. There were suggestions on how to improve the tour next year.

Owners should be at the home on the day of the tour or arrange for someone else with authority to be there. Docents should be reminded to take their own water and snacks. A list of docents should be available at each house.

Twyla Kingsley will be asked to head the Christmas contest in 2023.

The house that hosts the cocktail party the night before the tour needs to have a large kitchen. More people are needed to set up before and clean up after the party. Dale Ramey suggested two committees of at least six people each be formed for set up and clean up. Plastic plates, rather than crystal, should be used in the future.

Dale Ramey would like six homes on the tour in 2023, in case one drops out at the last minute. She already has three homes interested in being on the 2023 tour.

Christmas Party The 2022 Christmas party was a wonderful event. It cost the club $4,015. The club covered the entire cost but will not in the future. The Christmas Party committee submitted a 2023 budget of $5,400, or $90 a person, based on 60 members. Members will be asked if they are willing to pay $35-$45 to attend the party in 2023. The club will match their contribution.

A suggestion was made to have the Christmas party at Janis Boulware's home. The possibility of a potluck instead of a catered meal was discussed.

Executive Session The board went into executive session at 2:35 to discuss the cocktail party and the Christmas party. At 2:55, the board meeting continued.

Programs In January, Herman Auer, a Galveston Master Gardener, will give a grafting demonstration.

In February, T.J. Jones will give a presentation on nature photography for cell phones.

In March, there will be a field trip to Bee Weaver's with lunch at Martha's Bloomers. The refreshment list will be adjusted for the field trip. Carol will talk to Virginia and update the list.

There was discussion about charging a $5 fee for meetings when there is a speaker. If the visitor joins the club, the fee will be waived. When a fee is charged, the program will be first and visitors not wanting to join will leave before the meeting and lunch.

New Member Notebooks Kay made a motion to discontinue the new member notebooks. Shirley seconded the motion. The board agreed money would be saved, members would be forced to go to the website and few members actually use their notebooks. The motion was approved.

Scholarship The scholarship application has been updated. Applications should be sent to CHGCScholarshipTx@gmail.com

The application will be available on the website.

Dale Ramey suggested Libby Beckenbaugh email all the previous scholarship recipients to remind them to submit their applications. The deadline is March 1. Members will be encouraged to tell possible recipients about the scholarship opportunity.

Main Street Cleanup Debi explained the many things she does to prepare for Main Street Cleanup. She was disappointed only 11 members helped on Jan. 4. Margie Ogrodowicz oversees the Memory Garden and Twyla Kingsley is in charge of the Chappell Hill Methodist Church beds. The church will pay for any plants and tools Twyla needs.

Watering on Main Street Debi will start a watering schedule in March, depending on the weather.

Suggestion Box Paper for suggestions will be put on each table at the meeting Jan. 11 to encourage members to make recommendations.

Lynda reported that the member who made the suggestion to reduce the amount of scholarships in 2023 asked that her suggestion be discarded.

Meeting Dates in 2023 Carol distributed a list Karen created of 2023 board meeting dates. General meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month, except in months with festivals. The April meeting will be on April 19, and the October meeting will be on October 18. Sandy Smith has already arranged speakers for these meetings. Carol will call Sandy to let her know the correct dates.

Spring Fundraiser A fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 25 at First Baptist Church from 10-1. Margie Painter will talk about monarch butterflies, and Zack Stayton will discuss pollination, native plants and bees. In between the two speakers, there will be a break. Dale Ramey suggested coffee and water and perhaps cookies or kolaches be available. Bluebonnet Electric will be asked to donate water.

Expenses for the event include $100 rent, $100 to decorate tables and $600 for advertising. Proof of insurance is needed., which Lynda will provide.

The club has received $550 in sponsorship for the event. Tickets will cost $15 until March 20, when they will cost $20.

Zack Stayton will have a booth to sell items. Dale Ramey will have a booth also. Others may buy a booth, which cost $100.

Membership Pam Waldren, Sally Mitchell and Gail Braun will not renew their membership in 2023 due to personal reasons. The deadline to pay dues is Feb. 8, which the board agreed should be enforced.

Tomball Memorial High School Garden Club Donation Dale Ramey will talk to the sponsor of the garden club at the high school. After the information is verified about how to donate to the garden club, Lynda will write a check for $2,000.

Committees Members must submit an updated membership application with their $30 dues. Each member should include their committee choice on their application. If they do not choose a committee, Bennie will assign them to a committee.

Budget Requests Debi moved that the club purchase a PA system for $199 that could be used for all meetings and events. Kay seconded the motion, which passed.

Bennie moved that the club purchase a Chappell Hill Garden Club banner for $40 that could be used at the anniversary party, the Fourth of July parade and other events. Dixie seconded the motion, which passed.

Lynda will include both items in the 2023 budget.

Treasurer's Report Lynda Harrison presented **preliminary** financial statements, which are attached to the original minutes. Lynda is still waiting on a few charges and $200 in sponsorships before closing the books.

As of December 31, 2022, $39,342.97 was in the combined bank accounts. Total income through December was $47,398.94 and total expenses were $36,820.18, resulting in net income of $10,578.76.

The Masonic Lodge will be paid $50 for the use of their building for the home tour. Dale Ramey moved that Citizens on Patrol be paid $200 for their help during the home tour. Shirley seconded the motion, which passed. These two expenses will be included in the updated 2022 financial reports.

Lynda explained that if the club exceeds $50,000 in income in 2023, a more extensive and expensive IRS return will be required.

Mandy Forbes, who is creating the homeowner gift books, will not know the cost until the end of January. The cost will be included in the 2023 financials.

2023 Budget The budget meeting will be at noon on Monday, Jan. 16. Lynda will order and pick up lunch from Grapevine on Main. She will send the board a menu and requested a response by Sunday, Jan. 15.

Members will be encouraged to submit community outreach budget requests before the Jan. 16 meeting by putting their recommendation in the suggestion box or emailing Lynda. The board will agree on a preliminary budget at the Jan. 16 meeting. Carol will email the budget to members to review before the Feb. 8 meeting. The budget will also be on the website. Members have until Feb. 3 to email Lynda comments or questions. Members will vote on the budget at the Feb. 8 meeting.

Lynda recommended the club invest excess cash in a CD to provide a cushion for emergencies.

Executive Session The board went into executive session at 4:39 to discuss scholarship, then resumed the meeting at 4:42.

Resource Book Lynda Harrison wants to make changes to the Resource Book and will present them at the January 16 budget meeting.

Debi moved to adjourn; Lynda seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Madeley