

Chappell Hill Garden Club

November 9, 2022

The Chappell Hill Garden Club meeting opened in prayer by Vicki Henson at 10:03. Vicki led the pledge of allegiance. Present were 52 members.

Quorum was established.

Refreshments were provided by Mandy Forbes, Gail Braun, Glennis Tolunay and Janis Boulware.

Gail Braun made a motion to approve the October 12 minutes. Jere Hill seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Spring Fundraiser Dale Ramey suggested having a spring fundraiser. Two speakers, Margie Painter and Zack Stayton, would talk about monarch butterflies, bees and pollinating native plants. The event would be held at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church on Saturday, March 25. Tickets would cost \$15, and the garden club would sell milkweed. Club members would be needed to decorate the church and sell tickets.

Bennie Yates moved that the club hold a fundraiser March 25 with speakers. Jere Hill seconded the motion, which passed.

2023 Budget Committee chairs must submit their budget requests by Dec. 15. Lynda Harrison explained that once the proposed budget is prepared in January, the club will know how much money will be available and the club will vote on how to spend the money. Lynda encouraged members to submit their ideas to the suggestion box. Members will receive information about the proposed budget in January and will vote on the budget in February.

Dale Ramey suggested adding a donation to Chappell Hill Masonic Cemetery to the club's community outreach budget. Cheryl Robinson

suggested adding Sample Cemetery to the budget. Cheryl was encouraged to make a proposal to the board regarding Sample Cemetery.

Refreshments Virginia Malinowski passed around a sign-up sheet for refreshments in 2023. Members are required to provide refreshments once a year.

Two suggestions in the suggestion box from members were about refreshments. Two members would like refreshments to be simpler and not an elaborate meal. Dale Ramey explained that each group decides what they will bring and there are no requirements other than having something to eat and drink.

Treasurer's Report Lynda Harrison reported the book balance in the combined bank accounts was \$31,236.37 as of October 31, 2022. There was a net loss of \$12,002.84 through October 2022. Ticket sales, sponsorships and donations collected to date for the 2022 home tour are \$14,325. Financial statements were available for members to review and will be posted on the website.

Lynda thanked members for making suggestions to the suggestion box and encouraged them to make more suggestions.

Home Tour Sponsorship Dale Ramey reported most of the pledged sponsorships have been collected. Paula Matthews will help with collecting checks. Three one-thousand-dollar sponsorships have been collected or promised by Dan Parker, Jerry Brown and Holloway Homes.

Home Tour Six homes are on the December 10, 2022 Home Tour. Mandy Forbes had to withdraw from the tour due to an upcoming surgery. Mandy found a replacement home in Chappell Hill.

The pre-tour for docents, homeowners and sponsors donating more than \$500 will be on Friday, Dec. 9 and will begin in Doe Run. Carol Madeley will email directions to members prior to the event. The pre-tour cocktail party

will be at Kathy Parker's house in Chappell Hill. Connie Wilder will cater the party.

Tom Yates and Gary Pullins will put out signs to the homes.

All members have purchased their home tour tickets. Additional tickets are available at the Bluebonnet House. A few tickets will be available for sale at each home on the day of the tour.

Dale Dugas reported that 1,300 people have seen the home tour post she put on Facebook.

All members are required to docent at the home tour. Shifts will be from 9:30-1:30 or 1:30-5:30. Bennie Yates passed out docent assignments. She will text the members who were not at the meeting. Bennie said it is critical that everyone shows up for their docent assignment. Members will learn the addresses of the homes on the tour at the pre-tour. Docents may get information sheets about their home and if not, homeowners will be available to question.

Flyers were available for distribution. Members are encouraged to keep fliers in their car and ask businesses to post them.

Twyla Kingsley is the chair for the home tour contest. The theme this year is porch signs. Twenty-seven people have signed up to participate and are divided into six teams. The list of teams is attached to the original minutes. If anyone has a question about their team assignment, contact Twyla at 832-785-7275. Twyla had porch signs to be decorated available to be picked up by team leaders. Team 2 still needs a leader. Team members will choose a leader. The signs will be displayed at the Masonic Lodge during the home tour. Set up will be on Friday, Dec. 9 from 1-3. Signs will be available for sale to the highest bidder.

Dale Ramey thanked the following members who decorated two trees and bannisters at Kathy Parker's house for the home tour: Debi Faver, Paula Matthews, Dixie Ford and Kay Hanson-Clerc.

Jayne Hollywood asked members to text her at 979-270-2139 with the names of garden clubs, civic organizations, chambers of commerce and other groups within a 100-mile radius of Chappell Hill. She will email the organizations information about the home tour.

Christmas Party Paul Barrett reported this year's party will be the best one ever! It will be at the Brenham Country Club on Dec. 14 from 11-3. Members should bring a wrapped \$20 gift they would like to take home for the gift exchange. Paula thanked her hard-working committee and reminded the recipient of the hot dog shoes to include them in their wrapped gift. The recipient of the gnome last year should wrap it and bring it to the party, in addition to her gift.

Programs Sandy Smith has developed an exciting tentative schedule of programs for 2023. In January, Herman Auer, a Galveston Master Gardener, will present a program on grafting. Members will be able to graft a plant.

In February, T.J. Jones will teach the club how to take nature photographs. Each member will take five nature photos after the class. The club will print the photos and offer them for sale at the Art Walk in May.

In April, Vicki Henson will give a presentation on monarch butterflies.

Main Street Cleanup Everyone is invited to help at cleanup, which is the first Wednesday of the month. The next cleanup will be December 7.

At the November 2 cleanup, 156 bluebonnets were planted. Monkey grass was removed from the beds at Chappell Hill United Methodist Church and is available to any member who will pick it up from Debi Faver's house.

Watering on Main Street Debi Faver has a schedule for watering on Main Street, which is on the website. Debi thanked the Chappell Hill Historical Society for paying for the water the club uses on Main Street.

Suggestion Box In addition to the two suggestions about refreshments, members made three other suggestions.

One suggestion was to extend the number of beds the club maintains to the Chappell Hill Historical Society. Dale Ramey explained that the club is already overextended and unless more volunteers help, the club cannot add more beds at this time.

Another suggestion was to put in a soaker hose at the Post Office and the Memory Garden. The club has struggled with watering at the Post Office and tried many options. The club recently installed a new watering system which is working well. The Memory Garden has an irrigation system that is maintained by the Historical Society.

Another suggestion was to give members certificates for the number of years they have been in the club at the Fifteenth Anniversary Celebration in May. The suggestion was passed on to Cathy McNurlen, chair of the Anniversary Party.

Membership Barbara Segal has resigned due to health reasons. Dale Ramey asked if she would like to be an honorary lifetime member and she agreed.

Community Events A coffee chat with Washington County Precinct 2 Commissioner Candice Bullock and State Representative Kyle Kacal will be held on Thursday, Nov. 10 from 8-10 am at First Baptist Church Chappell Hill, 7675 FM 2447. Local and state issues will be discussed. The event is free and will include a light breakfast.

The next TxDOT meeting has been rescheduled to January 17.

Next Meeting The next meeting will be the Christmas Party on Wednesday, Dec. 14 at the Brenham Country Club.

Kim Pope moved to adjourn; Jayne Hollywood seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 11:16.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Madeley