Chappell Hill Garden Club Board Meeting

January 8, 2024

The Chappell Hill Garden Club board was called to order at 1:52 PM by President Dixie Ford. Present were Bennie Yates, Debi Faver, Kay Hanson-Clerc, Dale Ramey, and Janis Boulware. Lynda Harrison joined via telephone at 2:30 PM. Karen Kubeczka was absent.

Quorum (min 4) was established.

Kay moved that the December 4, 2023 minutes be approved as corrected. Bennie seconded and all voted in favor.

President's Report: Dixie reported board meeting date changes from May 6 to April 29 and from October to September 30. The time remains at 2 PM. She also reported that the Christmas lunch date will be moved from December 11 to December 18 so that the party will take place following the Cocktail party on December 13 and the Home Tour on December 14.

Treasurer's Report: Kay presented the financial report with the printed statements attached to the original minutes. The bank balance in the operating account as of 12/31/23 was $32,256.06 and Total Assets of $53,944.86. The $20,000 CD is maturing on 1/13/24 with a current value of $20,730 (3.92% interest). A discussion ensued regarding whether to add more funds to the CD for an 8 month term, or to renew it as is. Kay reported the club had the funds to add up to $15,000 before the renewal date if the board agreed. The suggestion was made to add $10,000 now and re-evaluate in 8 months. All agreed.

Kay reported that the club received a collection notice from the previous insurance company because the old policy was not canceled in time. Kay does not believe the club will need to pay but will investigate further. The current insurance policy is up for renewal in October.

Old Business-Committee Recap

Cocktail Party – Dixie spoke with Janice Williams who said she enjoyed working with Connie. Janice's suggestions for 2024 are 1) drive the route to better estimate the time to expect the club members to arrive as the food sat out for 1.5 hours; 2) make sure to have lots of people for setup and cleanup (she did, just continue with that); 3) do not have the cocktail party at a home on the tour but at a venue so that the homeowner isn't inconvenienced even more; and 4) have a co-chair so that the party chairs can tour the homes, too.

Homeowners' Meet & Greet – Mary Humphries has agreed to host this again and Dale gave her a budget of $250. A personal invitation to the dinner will be sent to the homeowners on the tour by November 1.

Home Tour – Many positive comments were heard with the only negative being the long drive between homes. Businesses would like to have the tour end in town so that visitors stay to shop or eat. Dale will sponsor ticket printing again and perhaps have a giveaway for visitors who bring back a completely punched ticket as an incentive to get them back into CH. Tour comments could be written on the back. Docents would need to remind guests to take their ticket back to CH for a gift. The material given to tour participants should be referred to as a "booklet" instead of brochure for clarity when discussing with printers, and the extra printing expense was unplanned this year due to

miscommunication at the late date. This will be remedied by next year. Kay expressed concern about ads placed in the booklet and will research implications of giving ad space in return for a sponsorship versus producing a list of sponsor names.

Docents – Bennie reported all went well as far as she knew. She still has booties for next year after providing 150 at each home. In addition to telling docents to remind visitors to take their punched tickets back to CH, docents will need to be reminded to stay off their cell phone and that the last one out the door is to bring the basket and leftover booties back too Bennie.

Wreaths – Twyla has agreed to chair this project again in 2024, possibly having teams create a centerpiece.

Christmas Party – Comments heard included: there was too much going on at the same time; don't need all the little extras and should just keep it simple; consider appetizers only and not a full meal; and it was unclear why there were Mardi Gras masks and Bible verses at the same event. A chair and location are still needed for 2024.

New Business

January program will be a PowerPoint prestation by Dixie. Allie Meisner, a scholarship recipient, will introduce herself to the club and give an update on her scholastic accomplishments. Debi Faver will give a 5 Minute Garden Tip. No candidates will speak. Lunch will be provided by Dale Dugas, Diane Wann, Twyla Kingsley, Woody Taylor, Paula Matthews, and Lexa Oelze.

Second Fundraiser organized by Dale will probably be in the summer instead of the Spring, during the hours of 10-1. The venue will need Wi-Fi and tickets must be printed in advance. Will be discussed more at the board budget meeting on January 15.

Main Street – Debi Faver requests a new watering timer and name tags. She plans to start a volunteer appreciation effort by giving name tag charms to Main St. participants. There are 8-10 regular attendees. Christmas decorations need to go back in storage and additional storage is required. Dale offered to call the storage place for a better price and/or an additional unit that is not climate controlled.

Lillian Farms Tree – Barbara Segal let the club use the room at Lillian Farms for the Christmas party at no cost. Upon the death of her son, the club offered to do something in his memory. Barbara suggested a tree by the lake at LF as her church is donating a bench. Dale will investigate the best tree for that location and the cost.

Update Resource Book Bylaws and Committees – Dixie led a discussion on officer and committee responsibilities that will be presented at the regular meeting for a vote to update the bylaws. The board agreed with the proposed revisions which will be presented in a PowerPoint presentation.

Budget Meeting – January 15 at the Methodist Church. Time changed to 10 AM instead of noon.

Dale moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:08 PM with a second from Kay.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Boulware