Chappell Hill Garden Club Board

December 5, 2022

The Chappell Hill Garden Club Board meeting opened at 2:00. Present were Dale Ramey, Bennie Yates, Debi Faver, Karen Kubeczka, Shirley Rigamonti, Dixie Ford, Kay Hanson-Clerc, Sandy Smith, Lynda Harrison, Paula Matthews and Carol Madeley.

Quorum was established.

Bennie moved that the Nov. 2 board minutes be approved. Shirley seconded the motion, which passed.

Home Tour The Wallis Evans home will no longer be on the home tour, due to covid.

Paula Matthews will be Dale Ramey's assistant next year for sponsorship. Thank you letters were sent to sponsors donating $250 or more. Two tickets were included in the letters. Invitations to the pre-tour and cocktail party were sent to sponsors donating $500 or more. Lynda Harrison will send tax exempt letters to sponsors and donors.

Through Nov. 30, $6,675 in home tour sponsorships and $1,750 in home tour donations have been collected. Lynda has a $1,000 check to be deposited. Karen gave Lynda a $500 sponsorship check from Mitch Clark. Roughly an additional $3,000 in sponsorships has been promised. Jerry Brown will donate $500, instead of $1,000 as originally expected, due to unexpected medical costs.

Lynda explained the difference between sponsorships and donations. Basically, sponsorships are from businesses, while donations are from individuals. Sponsors receive advertising in return for their sponsorship.

Dale Ramey passed out brochures. She thanked Karen Kubeczka for the map.

Dale Ramey thanked Paula Matthews, Debi Faver, Dixie Ford and Kay Hanson-Clerc for helping to decorate Kathy Parker's house for the home tour.

The Round Top Ruggers and the porch sign contest will be displayed at the Masonic Lodge. The porch signs will be set up from 1-3 on Friday, Dec. 9.

The cocktail party will be held at the Shaver Parker House after the pre-tour for docents, homeowners and those donating $500 or more. Connie Wilder will cater, and Loyce Jardell will also provide some food and drinks.

Carol Madeley will send an email about the pre-tour to members with a map and directions. Members are encouraged to carpool. Members may carpool directly to Bluebird Hill, the first house on the pre-tour , or may meet at Bever's to form carpools. The tour will begin at Bluebird Hill at 4:15.

Mandy Forbes will create the home tour photo book for homeowners. Karen Kubeczka, Mandy Forbes and Debra Salcedo will take pictures of the houses on Friday, Dec. 9.

All members have purchased tickets for the home tour.

Bennie Yates will move some of the docents scheduled to work at the Wallis Evans House to other houses. All members are required to docent, and no one has asked to be excused.

Two banners are at the light at 290 and Chappell Hill.

Dale Ramey reported that not enough fliers were distributed. This needs to be corrected next year.

Debi Faver said there are no booties in the storage unit. Bennie Yates found some booties and they are ready to be delivered to the homes on the tour.

Gary Pullins and Tom Yates will put directional signs out on Friday, Dec. 9.

Dale Dugas is making nametags for homeowners and sponsors attending the pre-tour. Bennie Yates will distribute nametags to members at the cocktail party.

A recommendation was made to include house names on the tickets next year.

Christmas Lights on Main Street Joel Romo of the Chappell Hill Chamber of Commerce is going to give the club $500 for the lights. Carol Salah of Carol's Ice House is collecting money from the merchants on Main Street for the lights.

Programs Sandy Smith presented a detailed program schedule for 2023. Only October is still tentative. She included clever descriptions of the programs that can be used in the meeting emails sent to members. Carol Madeley thanked Sandy for making her job so easy. The schedule and descriptions are attached to the original minutes.

In January, Herman Auer, a Galveston Master Gardener, will give a hands-on grafting demonstration with members participating.

In February, T.J. Jones will give a presentation on nature photography. Afterwards, members will be invited to submit 3 of their favorite photos to sell at the Artwalk on May 27, 2023.

Website Karen Kubeczka reported that 27 members have created accounts for the new website. A potential new member, Billie Barnes, requested an account and wanted to join the club. Karen will ask her to wait until 2023.

Budget Requests Cheryl Robinson has withdrawn her request for the club to donate to Sample Cemetery. Dale Ramey asked the board to think about including a donation to the Chappell Hill Masonic Cemetery to our 2023 community outreach budget.

Spring Fundraiser A fundraiser will be held on Saturday, March 25 at St. Stanislaus Cathodic Church from 10-1. Margie Painter will talk about monarch butterflies, and Zack Stayton will discuss pollination, native plants and bees. The club has received a $200 sponsorship for the event from Paula Matthews and another $100 sponsorship. Tickets will cost $15 until March 20, when they will cost $20.

Jayne Hollywood is keeping a list of email addresses of people who buy home tour tickets. She will send an email blast to them in March about the fundraiser.

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

Tomball High School Garden Club Donation Dale Ramey asked Lynda Harrison to write a check to the Tomball High School Garden Club for $2,000. The money will come from the advertising budget for home tour. Due to personal reasons, Lynda was unable to provide a list of questions to ask the Tomball High School principal to verify how to donate to the garden club as discussed at the Nov. 2 meeting. Lynda needs a contact person at the school before writing the check. Dale Ramey will provide Lynda with a contact person. Lynda suggested board members present the check to the school.

Christmas Party Paula Barrett and her committee have finalized plans for the Christmas party Dec. 14 at the Brenham Country Club from 11-3.

Treasurer's Report Lynda Harrison presented financial statements, which are attached to the original minutes.

As of November 30, 2022, $31,396.91 was in the combined bank accounts. Total income through October was $18,088.23 and total expenses were $30,502.60, resulting in a net loss of $12,414.37. Home tour ticket sales of $6,472.07, donations of $1,750.00 and sponsorships of $6,675 for the 2022 home tour will be recognized in December. These amounts have increased since Nov. 30.

Scholarship Lynda Harrison revised the scholarship application per discussion at the scholarship committee meeting. Lynda sent the application to the committee but has not received a response. All that was needed to complete the form was an email address. Dale Ramey will call Libby Beckenbaugh about the form.

2023 Budget Requests Committee chairs must submit their budget requests to Lynda Harrison by Dec. 15.

Committees Debi Faver recommended that committee chairs prepare a folder with information about their committee to give to the new committee chair each year.

Main Street Dale Ramey suggested using more shrubs on Main Street to reduce the number of 4-inch plants that are used. This will decrease the cost.

Suggestion Box Three suggestions were in the box and Debi Faver made a suggestion. The suggestions and the board's response are listed below.

Suggestion: Have social events for members to get to know each other. **Board Response:** The club is already overextended and having a hard time fulfilling all the requirements without adding another committee. Alternatively, it was suggested that any member who would like to invite members to join her at a restaurant, home, etc. at a certain time do so.

Janis Boulware has offered her home for a garden club social event. Dale Ramey suggested having the 2023 Christmas party at her house.

Suggestion: Reduce the amount of scholarships in 2023. **Board Response:** The board will propose a scholarship amount in the 2023 budget, based on income projections. Members will vote on the proposed amount.

Suggestion: Have a 30-minute training session for docenting at the home tour at the November meeting. **Board Response:** The board will consider this in 2023.

Suggestion: Sell poinsettias at the home tour. **Board Response:** The home tour is already complicated and time consuming, and the club doesn't need any additional projects associated with the home tour. It's difficult getting everything done as it is.

Thank you to Loyce Jardell, outgoing board member Loyce will be presented a $25 gift certificate in appreciation for her work on the board.

The next board meeting will be Monday, January 9 at 2 pm. A budget meeting will be held on Monday, January 16 at noon.

Bennie moved to adjourn; Shirley seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Madeley