Chappell Hill Garden Club

September 13, 2023

The Chappell Hill Garden Club meeting opened in prayer by Darlene Wyatt at 10:01. Dale Dugas led the pledge of allegiance. Present were 42 members.

Quorum was established.

Minutes Susan Baumann made a motion to approve the August 9, 2023, minutes. Paula Barrett seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Refreshments Sandy Smith, Fran Hunt, Dixie Ford, Mary Smith, Karen Van Citters and Virginia and Coy Sevier provided refreshments. In November, Tina Heart, Cheryl Robinson, Jodi Rodriguez, Kay Hanson-Clerc and Kathryn van der Pol will bring refreshments. In October, the club is going on a field trip.

Treasurer's Report The latest financial statements are available on the website. As of August 31, 2023, the book bank balance was $32,304.93. Through August, the club had a loss because the club operates at a loss most of the year until the Christmas home tour.

Lynda Harrison had the club's bank statement available for any member who wanted to see it.

Elections Due to the field trip in October, elections will be held in November instead of October. Nine board positions are available. Two current board members will not be running. Janis Boulware has agreed to run. Any member wanting to run should tell Dale Ramey or another board member. The club has directors' and officers' insurance to protect board members from any financial liability.

Home Tour Sponsorship Dale Ramey reported that about $12,000 in sponsorships have been committed. All members are encouraged to solicit sponsors. Packets of information for potential sponsors explaining what the club does for the community were available.

In order for the club to be able to do all the things it does, an additional fundraiser will be held in 2024. Ideas include a dynamic speaker or a Mother's Day event.

Home Tour Flyers Flyers were available for members to take to distribute to businesses. The following people volunteered to deliver flyers in specific areas: Douglas and Maclyn Jones, Cypress; Vickie Henson, Hempstead; Susan Baumann, Bellville; Dale Dugas and Paula Barrett, Brenham; Fran Hunt, the library; Virginia and Coy Sevier, Navasota; and Vinnie Boyd, Houston. Sonjia Biddle will be asked to take flyers to the Carmine/ Somerville area.

Flyers will be sent to area garden clubs and chambers of commerce.

Home Tour Docents Bennie Yates will make a schedule of docents for the home tour. Every member must docent. If a member has a time preference (morning or afternoon), text Bennie at 979-337-1200.

Home Tour Tickets Tickets were given to members who have paid for their tickets. Members are required to buy $100 of tickets. The deadline to purchase tickets is October 18. Members may drop off their payment at The Bluebonnet House. Members who weren't at the September meeting may pick up their tickets at The Bluebonnet House, Wednesday through Saturday.

Pre-tour Cocktail Party Connie Wilder will cater the party at Glennis Tolunay's house.

Home Tour Contest Twyla Kingsley passed around a sign-up sheet to participate in the contest. Members were encouraged to take part in the contest, which is a good way to get to know other members. This year,

wreaths will be decorated. The wreaths don't have to be Christmas themed. The wreaths will be displayed at the Masonic Lodge and home tour visitors will vote on the best wreath. The wreaths will be sold by auction.

Main Street Cleanup The next cleanups will be on October 4 and November 1, starting at 7:30 or 8:00. In October, bluebonnet seeds, daffodils and irises will be planted.

Debi Faver thanked everyone who helped at the September 6 cleanup. Special recognition was given to Gary and Katherine Pullins and Twyla Kingsley and Woody Taylor.

Watering on Main Street Due to the high heat and drought, an additional day each week is needed for watering. Two members volunteered.

Suggestion Box Eleven suggestions were received and discussed at the September board meeting. Dale Ramey highlighted the suggestions.

A suggestion was made to have a sign in sheet instead of taking time to take roll call at each meeting. The board decided many members do not sign in and the roll call is an efficient way to keep track of which members attend meetings.

Microphones should be used at the meeting. An announcement should be made at the beginning of each meeting to silence cell phones.

Members will be given training at the November meeting.

Membership Vinnie Boyd is the newest member.

Programs In October, the club will be going on a field trip to the large greenhouses at The Clubs at Houston Oaks to learn about hydroponics, aquaponics and vertical gardening. A picnic lunch will follow. Members who want to go, must pay $15 for lunch in advance. Members should arrange their own carpools.

Members who were not at the September meeting and would like to go to the October meeting should contact Sandy Smith at 830-998-9880.

Christmas Party The party will be at Lillian Farms on Wednesday, Dec. 13 from 11 to 3. Members should bring a nice, wrapped gift for the gift exchange. Optional additional unwrapped gifts for nursing homes will be collected.

Visitors at Club Field Trips While members got their lunch, the board had an emergency meeting. Dale Ramey reported that a couple of members asked to bring visitors to the October field trip. Per Standing Rule # 9, only members may attend field trips or outside events, except with board approval. Several requests have been made during the year and the board has not approved them. The board voted not to allow visitors at the October field trip. This rule will be reviewed in 2024.

Dale Ramey introduced Justin Duncan who presented a fascinating program on medicinal plants.

Debi Faver moved to adjourn; Darlene Wyatt seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 12:37. Interested members were invited to stay and learn more from Justin.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Madeley