

**Minutes of RIFGC Board Meeting**  
**January 28, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at the Roger Williams Park Casino at 10:16 am by President Cathy Moore, and wished all a Happy New Year. Cathy called the role. 19 Clubs were represented.

Cathy announced a change in the Board – Ann Huntoon is stepping down as Second Vice President and Sogkonate's Deb Ort is taking over the position. Her main duties are to serve as a liaison to the membership and to grow the membership. Cathy presented Deb with a plant with a list of her duties attached.

Treasurer Bernie Larivee presented his report for November 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

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| Checking balance on 10/31:               | \$44,206.06      |
| Deposits:                                | 6,032.24         |
| Cash disbursements:                      | <u>5,451.34</u>  |
| Checking balance on 12/31:               | \$44,787.50      |
| CD and money market balance on 12/31:    | <u>78,283.73</u> |
| Total balance of accounts on 12/31/2015: | \$123,071.23     |

Apple Blossom is the only Club still needing to pay 2015-2016 dues. There was no one in attendance from Apple Blossom.

Bernie still has a check for 2015 raffle ticket proceeds for Somerset. There was no one in attendance from Somerset.

**Committee Reports:**

**Annual Meeting and Luncheon:** De Feldman, Chair, announced that Lisa Pollack is taking reservations. The date is April 28, 2016, and each seat is \$37. The event will be at the Quidnessett Country Club in North Kingstown. Tables for 10, and a few for 12, will be available. Kent Russell, the "Garden Guru," will be coming from Pennsylvania to present. As in previous years, clubs will be allowed to return unsold seats for a refund, provided they are cancelled by April 1. Paid reservations and a complete list of attendees must be given to Lisa no later than April 20 to be used at check-in.

**Life Member:** Vice Chair De Feldman announced the correct date for the next event, Thursday, May 19 at the Rhode Island Yacht Club in Edgewood. Jim Donahue of the Preservation Society of Newport will give a presentation on the gardens of the Newport mansions. Tickets will be \$35 per person. Invitations will be sent out by Corresponding Secretary, Lisa Pollack. Applications for membership have been placed in Club folders. The May 19 event is open to all, whether members or not.

**Awards:** Holly Lippert, Chair, announced that Publicity Press Books are due today. If needed, they may be sent to her by FedEx or other overnight means.

In December, award nominations were submitted to National:

Gentian for its Blue Star project

Barrington and Hameho for their Newsletters

Sogkonate for its history compilation, for Garden Therapy, and for an Award of Excellence for its meadow, litter, recycling and reclamation project.

The deadline for Rhode Island awards is February 15.

**Youth:** Chair Sue Talbott announced that today is the deadline for submissions for the Smoky Bear, Woodsy Owl, Poetry and Sculpture Contests.

Sue showed an example of the youth horticulture project for the RI Flower Show – a caterpillar made of half an egg carton, planted with wheat berry seeds. She has kits available for clubs to take today.

Butterfly masks for the RI Flower Show youth craft are due today to Cathy Moore.

**RI Flower Show:** Cathy Moore announced that after two successful painting parties, all staging has been completed and shrink-wrapped. They will be transported to the Convention Center that way, and remain covered until Tuesday afternoon. Everyone involved thinks the painting beforehand was a great way to go, and they are hopeful that keeping them wrapped will keep them nick-free and clean during the Show set-up.

De Feldman needs a few more Clerks. She reminded all Clerks to dress warmly, as it is very cold on the floor.

Marj DeAngelis reported that three more teams are needed for D301 and D302 – this is “Spring Equinox, Day and Night,” a duo design. She also needs two more entries for D303, “Earth Day,” for the spouse or partner challenge. All supplies, including plant material, are provided.

One more entry is needed for the Horticulture Display Class.

Candace Morgenstern reported that she’s all set for Artistic Crafts.

Cathy Moore thanked the clubs that submitted butterfly masks for the youth artistic craft.

Marnie Sandham asked for more volunteer hostesses.

Sandi Tinyk reported that Photography is all set.

Cathy thanked Lisa Pollack and Angle Tree for running the coping station; Deb Ort for doing the signage; and Holly Lippert for running the computers.

Cathy reminded us that the Flower Show is our biggest fundraiser of the year. All entrants and volunteers are very much appreciated. Volunteers will each get a ticket to the Show.

Bernie Larivee, Raffle Chair, still needs items for wine and garden baskets, or please send money. He showed off the birdhouse that was donated by Angle Tree.

#### **Announcements:**

Marnie Sandham is selling calendars made by her son with his photographs of RI lighthouses. She has donated one to the Flower Show raffle. For every calendar sold today, \$2 will be donated to RIFGC.

The husband of Plum Beach’s new president, Donna Dufault, passed away unexpectedly last week. Cards may be sent to Donna at 1053 Middle Road, East Greenwich, RI 02818.

Next BDS is April 6. Ann Huntoon will be leading a creative design. Class will be at the North Scituate Community Center on Route 116. Cost is \$35 for this single class. Contact Linda Kirkpatrick or Marj DeAngelis if you want to register.

ADS on the same day will be an artistic craft, using leftover butterfly masks. Contact Vicki Iannuccillo for details.

Vicki Iannuccillo reminded us that there are two Design Awards available at the Annual Luncheon – the Sylvia Street Award for a creative design, and the Joan Pessola Award for a traditional design. Submit a 5x7 or 8x10 photo to Vicki if you’ve done a design this year, complete with a description of the event, date, and place the design was shown on a post-it note on the back. Each award comes with a certificate and \$25. Submissions to Vicki are due in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Pollack, Acting Recording Secretary