

Minutes of RIFGC Board Meeting
January 26, 2017

Laney Widener, Botanical Coordinator for the New England Wild Flower Society, gave a presentation on becoming a RI Plant Conservation Volunteer. Training will be on March 4. Anyone interested in participating in RI should contact her at lwidener@newenglandwild.org

The meeting was called to order at the Roger Williams Park Casino at 10:33 am by President Cathy Moore.

Recording Secretary Lisa Pollack called the roll. 14 Clubs were represented.

Committee Reports:

Annual Meeting: Chair De Feldman reminded members that this is an installation year – Life Member officers will be installed at the morning meeting, and RIFGC officers will be installed at the luncheon. Annual awards will be announced and distributed, and there will be a raffle.

The meeting and luncheon will be on April 27 at Quidnessett Country Club. \$37 per person. Speaker Thelma Shoneman will be presenting “Floral Designs Inspired by Fabulous Gardens.” Reservations and checks are being taken by Lisa Pollack. Deadline for reservations is April 20. Deadline to request refunds for unused reservations is April 1.

Awards: Chair Holly Lipper said that she was collecting publicity press books and that award submissions are due to her by February 15.

BDS: Cathy Moore reported that Ann Huntoon had presented a wonderful program in North Scituate the day before.

The next BDS/ADS session will be on March 29. Candace Morgenstern will be the instructor for a creative design.

Education Day: Chair Sandi Tinyk announced that the next Ed Day will take place in the Casino on Wednesday, November 8.

Judges’ Council: Cathy Moore reported that Sue Redden, Vicki Iannuccillo, and Vera Bowen were attending an Instructors Symposium.

The Judges Council will be meeting at Vicki’s home on Monday, Jan. 30. They will be going over the new handbook and discussing changes contained therein.

Cathy reminded all that the Ruth Anderson presentation will take place on Thursday June 15 at St. Andrew’s School in Barrington. Tickets are \$15 each prior to April 1, and \$20 after that. Contact Adelaide Clifford for tickets.

Life Member: President Sharon Gainey reminded us of the next event, taking place July 27 at the Dunes Club.

Applications for RI’s scholarship must be submitted by February 1. Contact Lynne Merrill for further details or with questions.

Member Services/Ways and Means: Blakely Szosz announced that the Newport Polo Club has one entire event dedicated to RI non-profits. Groups are given tickets which they may sell for any price they wish – all ticket money goes to the non-profit group that sells them. This year’s charity event will be held on Sunday, July 16. She mentioned the idea of having a hat or fascinator contest as part of this possible fundraiser.

Cathy Moore brought up the idea of the Judges Council having a table at the Annual Meeting where they could sell containers and other flower show materials that they’re finished with.

Website: Chair Adelaide Clifford says that as soon as she's got information it will be posted on the site. All information should go to Cathy Moore for approval first.

Cathy Moore reminded all that photos of club events can also be submitted for posting on the member section.

Reminder re. websites:

RIFGC site is www.rigardenclubs.org Password is flowers

NGC site is www.gardenclub.org Password is flight

Youth: Sue Talbot collected all entries for contests, due today.

NEWS: Editor Blakely Szosz said that the deadline for the Presidents Issue, covering March, April, and May, is February 1. Please include your theme, the number of members in your club, and a blurb about your favorite program of the year.

The issue will also include dates for the 2017-2018 RIFGC meetings so that Clubs will have that information for planning purposes.

Announcements:

Plum Beach GC will be holding a program on Thursday, June 8th at the Dune's Club, "The Jewelry of the Garden." Blakely Szosz will be designing container gardens.

Barrington GC will be holding a judged flower show, "A Blithewold Wedding," at Blithewold from Friday, April 7 through Sunday, April 9. The preview party on Friday night, 6-8 pm, will be a cocktail party wedding reception. This is their major fundraiser for the year. Tickets are \$35 each and can be purchased from Darcy Scott. You can reach Darcy at 401-486-1474 (home) or 401-245-3976 (home) or Darcy@fullchannel.net There are still openings in the show in two classes, as well as the photography category.

Edgewood GC is offering a trip to the New York Botanical Gardens on Wednesday, June 14 with a 6:00 am departure. Trip price is \$90 and includes the bus, tip, botanical gardens admission, a guided tour, and a boxed lunch. The afternoon will be free time. Contact is Paul Nunes at pbnunes4@gmail.com

Barrington GC is also planning a trip to the NY Botanical Gardens.

Barrington GC is running a trip to Wave Hill Gardens and Untermyer Garden and Park on June 21.

Program Chair Sandi Tinyk will be staying on in this position. She's offering a RIFGC two-day trip, "Gardens of Long Island: A Springtime Sea of Color" on May 30 and 31. Contact Sandi for more details or a flyer. Prices are \$365 per person in a triple; \$389 per person in a double; and \$425 in a single.

Sandi is also planning a December 2-3 "Christmas in Brandywine Valley" trip. Details will be announced as they become available.

There will be a RIFGC Board meeting this February 23, instead of the Flower Show. It is hoped that a speaker will be presenting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Pollack, Recording Secretary