

Minutes of RIFGC Board Meeting
March 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order at the Roger Williams Park Casino at 10:00 am by President Cathy Moore. Cathy called the roll – 19 Clubs were represented.

Ballots for Board Officers and for nominating committee members were placed at every chair.

Craig Hotchkiss, Community Project Coordinator for the RI Tree Council was our guest speaker.

The meeting reconvened at 10:42 am and ballots were collected.

Treasurer Bernie Larivee giving the financial report for the period February 1-28, 2017.

Checking balance on 2/1:	\$34,703.51
Deposits:	\$ 210.00
<u>Cash disbursements:</u>	<u>\$ 251.58</u>
Checking balance on 2/28:	\$34,661.93
<u>Total for CDs/money market</u>	<u>\$65,317.22</u>
Total balance for RIFGC	\$99,979.15

Committee Reports:

Annual Meeting: Chair De Feldman reminded members that awards will be distributed and LMG officers will be installed at the 10:00 meeting. This will be followed by a social hour; lunch, Thelma Shoneman's presentation, and; installation of RIFGC Board Officers.

Cathy Moore announced that donated design accessories, gardening books, baskets, and interesting (and clean!) containers may be delivered to Quidnessett Country Club on Wednesday, April 26 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, when members of the Plum Beach Garden Club will be setting up the table.

Blue Star: Chatham Village's dedication will take place on Memorial Day. Contact Jan Marcello for more information about how their process worked.

Flower Shows/ Flower Show Schools/Judges Council: The next BDS and ADS sessions will be March 29 at the Amicable Congregational Church in Tiverton. Candace Morgenstern will be the BDS instructor, teaching a creative design. Please bring wire cutters, a long needle, and neutral thread.

ADS will take place immediately after, with the mini-schedule including two new designs from the new flower show handbook: cascade and low-profile. Vicki Iannuccillo can be reached on her cell phone (401-465-1160) if you'd like to participate or just observe.

Tickets for the June 15 Judges Council's Ruth Anderson Series, featuring designer Natasha Lisitsa, are still available. The program will run from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Linda Kirkpatrick of Bayberry and Portsmouth has submitted her schedule – it was approved and passed. Good job!

As Clubs are planning their schedules for the next year, please consider having a Flower Show. 17 RI judges need credits, and those are hard to get without flower shows! The new handbook makes the shows much easier to hold.

New Business:

Blakely Szosz announced that RIFGC's Facebook page is now in place. Eventually, it would be great to have a representative from each Club who would have access to post, etc. Please LIKE and SHARE the page!

This is a great way to promote events with announcements and photos. Send information to Cathy Moore and Blakely Szosz.

Rehoboth had a Flower Show last year, held at Linda McHugh's home. She is available to talk about what was involved if any clubs are interested in doing something similar. She can be reached at 508-252-9768 or LindaMcHugh18@yahoo.com

Vera Bowen and Cathy Moore have "Flower Show In A Box," if anyone wants to use it.

Blakely Szosz asked that dates for club events, sales, etc. please be given to RIFGC as soon as they're know so that others can participate and so that clubs are not overlapping and competing for attendance.

Blakely Szosz will be the guest speaker for Plum Beach Garden Club's June 8 event, "Jewelry in the Garden," at the Dunes Club. Tickets are \$45 each, and the event will take place from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm.

June 1 will be the final RIFGC meeting before the Summer break. Vicki Iannuccillo would like to speak about the new Flower Show Handbook.

RIFGC is running an overnight 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. A deposit of \$125 will reserve your spot on the trip until April 30, when the balance is due.

Sarah Lee of Edgewood, announced their trip to the NY Botanical Gardens on June 14. The bus will leave from Rhodes on the Pawtuxet.

Shirley Harrison announced Sogkonate's program, "The Living Landscape," with speakers Rick Darke and Doug Tallamy on June 24. The program is free, but registration (via the club's website) is required.

De Feldman reminded all that flyers should be places in the officers' boxes as well as the presidents' boxes. About 60 copies are needed to fill all boxes.

Election results: As there were no nominations from the floor, Sandi Tinyk, Chair of the Nominating Committee, asked that the slate of officers put forth at the February 23 meeting be voted on by voice. The slate was approved by unanimous voice vote.

President – Blakely Szosz, Barrington Garden Club

1st VP – Deb Ort, Sogkonate Garden Club

2nd VP – Sheryl McGookin, Edgewood Garden Club

Recording Secretary – Emily Reade, Barrington Garden Club

Corresponding Secretary – Linda Alves, Western Cranston Garden Club

Treasurer – Lisa Pollack, Angle Tree Garden Club

Ex-Officio – Cathy Moore, Gardeners of Westerly

The three members chosen for the 2017-2019 nominating committee were:

Linda Kirkpatrick, Portsmouth and Bayberry

Bernie Larivee, Edgewood

Sue Redden, Barrington

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Pollack, Recording Secretary