

Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc
Minutes from September 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 by President Sandi Tinyk with a welcome and thanks for accommodating the change in date and time of the meeting.

A lovely remembrance and moment of silence was called for to honor former RIFGC and Edgewood GC President Margaret E. Thielsch, Accredited Master Judge Doris Stephens of Barrington, and for Jan Feldman the husband of former RIFGC President and former Barrington President De Feldman. A Life Member donation will be made in the names of Margaret Theisch and Jan Feldman.

Absent today with notice were Secretaries Lisa Pollack and Marnie Sandham, and First VP Catherine Moore. Recording Secretary Pro Tem. was Second Vice President Blakely Szosz who called the roll.

A report was read from Sue Talbot outlining the use of community project funds awarded to Sogkonet Garden Club.

A letter from NGC Scholarship Chairman Bonnie Borne was read congratulating Lauren Breene on a \$4,000 scholarship.

Revised/corrected minutes from June's board meeting were circulated electronically and accepted. Treasurers Report from June through July was accepted and filed for audit with August to follow.

- **President's Report**

A current list of Club Presidents will be sent out to members to improve communication. A request was made to include newsletters in the member's area of the RIFGC website. In regards to articles and photographs for the newsletter all should be submitted through President Sandy Tinyk.

NER Publicity Press Book Award was awarded to Gentian Garden Club for 2nd place, medium club. A certificate of merit was awarded to Newport for their 100th anniversary.

Congratulations to Portsmouth on their 80th anniversary celebration at Glen Manor.

Sandi Tinyk and Vera Bowen will attend the fall NGC board meeting in Des Moines, Iowa next week. Quite a few RIFGC will also attend the NER annual meeting and annual Symposium in Burlington, Vermont.

Education Day October 9th at Botanical Center- register with Marnie Sandham.

- **Second V.P. Report**

Blakely Szosz requested that the website ask for the town that interested members reside in to expedite requests.

- **Juniors/Youth**

Packets of Smokey Bear and promotional NGC gifts for juniors are available. Essay, poetry, poster information- please sign up!

- **Annual Meeting**

Emily Reade has flyers ready for the April 23 meeting which is an installation year and will have a new location- the Imperial Room at One Rhodes Place, Cranston RI. Attendance will have a limit so order tables early. Guest speaker is Susan Detjens "Flowerflinging" Tickets available in December will be sold by Darcy Scott for \$35. *Vendors are needed.*

- **Awards**

Yearbooks are due to Sue Redden in October- 2 are needed with the NER form. Publicity Press Books are due in January. RI State awards are due February 15. Please consider the Sylvia Street award and the Joan Pessola award for a traditional or oriental style arrangements- deadline is January 15, for more information contact Lynne- LynneMerrill3@gmail.com

- **Design Study**
October 15th is the next class with Priscilla DiMarco teaching. Sign up for individual classes or all four.
- **Flower Show Schools**
The Dahlia show held in September was judged by many RI accredited judges. Flower Show Schools and symposium next month in Burlington.
The schedule for this year's Flower Show 'The Spirit Of Adventure' is now available. Sandi Tinyk, Vera Bowen, and Sue Redden are chairing the show.
- **Life Member**
Chairman BJ Stephens is setting up the luncheon which is immediately following today's meeting with our scholarship award winner in attendance.
- **NEWS**
The September issue known as the Chairman's Issue has been mailed. The deadline for the next issue is November 1st with all submissions sent to Sandi Tinyk.
- **Photography**
We are still in need of a photographer. In the meantime all submissions are welcome.
- **Ways and Means/Member Services**
Please submit digital photographs to Vera Bowen for our next monthly printed calendar. The NGC Vision of Beauty Calendars have been ordered.
- **Website**
Holly Lippert was thanked for doing an amazing job with our website. Effective this month , minutes of Federation Board meetings will be posted in the member's section.
- **New News/Announcements**
Bernie Larivee announced an upcoming trip to Provincetown, Cape Cod from Edgewood with a garden tour and wine and cheese party. Details to follow.
September 27th Portsmouth will be holding a yard sale from 9-1 promoting repurposing and recycling at the Aquidneck Island Christian Academy.
Reminder of RIFGC Holiday Luncheon December 4th with guest speaker Bill Graham presenting "Balsam and Bling". NGC President Linda Nelson will be in attendance.
Next year is our 85th anniversary with a trip to Costa Rica in Celebration- brochures have been distributed to all clubs.
- **Old Business-** none
- **Next Meeting is scheduled for October 30 at 10:00 at Roger Williams Park Casino with coffee at 9:30. Meeting adjourned at 10:56.**

Respectfully submitted by Blakely Szosz