

**Minutes of RIFGC Executive Board Meeting**  
**December 4, 2014**

The meeting was called to order on the first floor of the Roger Williams Park Casino at 10:05 am by President Sandi Tinyk. Sandi thanked all those in attendance for being here at a particularly busy time of year, and remarked that the outfits she saw in the audience showed we are getting into the spirit of the season. She was pleased to announce that there would be 88 members in attendance for the luncheon and, noting that she had flown from Oregon just to attend our meeting and holiday luncheon, Sandi welcomed special guest NGC President Linda Nelson to Rhode Island and to the podium.

NGC President Linda Nelson spoke. Declaring that we couldn't allow the Girl Scouts to best us, she shared the exciting news that the new web NGC platform would be launched in a few days. She urged everyone to check out the new website at [www.gardenclubs.org](http://www.gardenclubs.org). She said it was particularly important for the state websites to match the level of the NGC site, keeping calendars, events, and articles on our websites up to date and interesting as we work to attract new and younger members to NGC.

Recording Secretary Lisa Pollack called the role. 20 Clubs were represented. The Minutes were accepted without correction.

Treasurer Bernie Larivee reported a checking account balance as of October 31, 2014 of \$20,138.81; a balance in other CD accounts of \$101,760.49; with a total for all accounts of \$121,899.30. The report was filed for audit.

**President's Report:** Sandi Tinyk offered a warm welcome back to Cathy Moore, now President-Elect of RIFGC, remarking that she's had a tough row to hoe this year. She said Cathy will be looking for Committee Chairs for her administration, said we should expect her calls, and urged us to say "Yes" when asked to serve!

Sandi said she was excited about NGC's new "Eco-Warriors" booklet and urged clubs to consider using this in their programs.

Sandi called for a moment of silence in respect for Elaine Dates, a longtime judge for the RI Flower Show from Vermont who passed away recently. Five members of our Judges Council traveled to the funeral. Her absence will leave a void at the next Show.

The departure date for the Costa Rica trip has been changed to March 5 (from 3/9) in order to better accommodate all 18 people who have registered. More people can still join in.

Sandi thanked those who had sent sympathy cards after the death of (her husband) George's mother, and those who sent get well cards after George's recent surgery.

Sandi said that RIFGC is still looking for a photographer. She asked that any photos that get taken today be sent to Blakely and Holly.

**Committee Reports:**

**Annual Meeting:** De Feldman reminded us that the meeting and luncheon will be at the Imperial Room in Cranston on April 23. Susan Detjens will be presenting "flowerflinging." There are only 180 seats available, so please purchase your tickets early. \$35 each. Darcy Scott is selling tickets today. Remember that the festivities will also include the installation of new Officers.

**Awards:** Sue Redden announced that applications for NGC awards are due to her by December 15.

Publicity Press Books are due to Sue at the next Board meeting, January 22.

Photos for the Joan Pesola and Sylvia Street Awards are due to Lynne Merrill by January 15. Arrangements created for events as diverse as refreshment tables, Advanced Design Study, or flower shows are eligible for consideration.

RI State Awards are due on February 15, 2015.

Sandi Tinyk reminded us not to forget about the \$2000 available from RIFGC for annual community project awards. Clubs should think about projects they'd like to work on in their communities.

**Blue Star:** Candace Morgenstern, Chair, announced that Sagkonate Garden Club and Gentian Garden Club are both installing markers on Memorial Day, May 25, 2015. She said it's an easy process,

involving getting approval of the Club, getting approval from the DPW or Town Manager, and contacting Candace!

**Design Study:** Vicki Iannuccillo announced that the next session will be Wednesday, January 14 at the North Scituate Community House, 546 West Greenville Road (Route 116) in Scituate, RI. For BDS the presenters will be Marjorie DeAngelis and Ann Huntoon

**Flower Show Schools:** Sue Redden, Chair, congratulated Linda Kirkpatrick of Portsmouth who has passed FSS Course I with flying colors.

Sue was very happy to announce that Marjorie DeAngelis of Rehoboth GC and Ann Huntoon of Gentian GC have passed the Handbook Exam and will become NGC Accredited Judges as soon as they receive their accreditation cards. With permission from Ann Huntoon, Sue told us all that Ann Huntoon scored a perfect 100 on her exam. Sue has not seen this in the 15 years that she's been FSS Chair, nor had the grader in Illinois! Congratulations to Ann! And a warning that she's now our go-to person for horticulture!

**Flower Shows:** Sue Redden, Chair, reminded us that our own RIFGC Show, "The Spirit of Adventure," will take place February 19-22. Judging will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup>. The complete schedule, as well as the design entry form, can be found on our website. [www.rigardenclubs.org](http://www.rigardenclubs.org) the password is flowers. Most classes still need at least one entry. Priscilla DiMarco is the entries chair.

Last year we had 197 horticulture entries – this year let's break the 200 mark!

Sandi Tinyk reminded us that there's a new Photography division this year. There will be four photographs selected in each of three classes. Entrants may submit photos to all three classes. Photos are due to Sandi by January 10.

Cathy Moore, Chair for Youth Artistic Craft, has more sailboats available today. They are due back to her, along with any unused boats, at the January Board meeting. 146 have been distributed so far.

Container-grown cacti and succulents must be in the hands of the youth exhibitors by December 19.

Raffle Chair Bernie Larivee is distributing tickets to clubs today – one book per member. He's also looking for basket donations. Last year we made \$10,000 – let's top that this year!

Darcy Scott is looking for clerks to go around with the judges on Wednesday, February 18.

Marnie Sandham is looking for hostesses for all shifts of the show.

**Habitat for Humanity:** Sandi Tinyk reported that the house in Bristol has been identified for landscaping. Some members have already volunteered to help with the Spring planting there, but Karen Kenterberg can always use more help.

**Horticulture:** Linda Alves, Chair, discussed caring for Christmas plants after the holidays. She stressed that proper watering is the most important things for all of the Christmas plants – they should be moist but not soaked. Amaryllis are the only ones that need fertilizer during the winter. Wait until spring to repot any of the plants. Christmas cacti can go outside for the summer, right up through the first frost.

**Life Member Scholarship:** BJ Stephens reported that the application deadline has moved to February 1 (from March). Remember, these scholarships are available to anyone in a relatable science from a town represented by a RIFGC club. Contact Janice Panoff for more information

**NEWS:** Blakely Szosz, Editor, was congratulated for doing a great job. February 1 is the deadline for the March/April/May Presidents' Issue. Remember, all articles are to be sent first to Sandi Tinyk. Please send photos of club events, etc., to Blakely and also to Holly Lippert for inclusion on the website.

**Ways and Means/Member Services:** Lisa Pollack, Chair, reported that she has 50 Vision of Beauty Calendars for delivery today. Pam Bishop has graciously agreed to take over the sale of the RIFGC wall calendars for \$10 each today. Sandi Tinyk said she'd like this to continue as an annual fundraiser. It would be nice to have photos of all seasons for inclusion in next year's calendar. The deadline for next year's submissions will be mid-October. Remember that this is a fund-raiser for the Habitat for Humanity landscaping projects. It's nice to be able to purchase mature trees and shrubs to give them a good start in their new homes.

**Website:** Sandi Tinyk reported that many aspects of the website have already been updated. Adelaide Clifford has volunteered to help Holly Lippert with the site, and if anybody else is interested they'd be welcome

**Youth:** Rochelle Kieron, Chair, announced that she's aware of 10 poster entries, 2 poetry entries, 2 essay entries, and 1 sculpture entry. They are due to her at the January Board meeting. You may find more info in the last issue of the News, or visit the NGC website for complete details.

**Announcements:**

Edgewood is sponsoring a trip to Provincetown on Wednesday, June 10. The bus will leave from William Hall in Cranston at 7:30 am. The day will conclude with a wine and cheese reception at the end of the day. The cost is \$65 per person. The bus is filling quickly. Contact Bernie Larivee for more information or for a reservation.

Bristol GC is presenting a flower show at Blithewold on February 18 and 19, during Daffodil Days. There will be a special wine and food party there from 6:00 to 9:00 pm on April 18. Tickets are \$25 per person and will raise money for the Bristol GC scholarship fund.

2015 is the 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary of RIFGC. Sandi Tinyk and Blakely Szosz are co-chairing an Art in Bloom-style flower show at the Botanical Center, probably the last weekend in September. All of the art selected for floral interpretation will be by Rhode Island and nearby-Massachusetts fine artists. This will be a non-judged show.

The next Board meeting will be Thursday, January 22, 2015 on the second floor of the Roger Williams Park Casino, with social time at 9:30 and the meeting beginning at 10:00 am. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa B. Pollack,  
Recording Secretary