

**Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 26, 2018**

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President Blakely Szosz called the April Board meeting to order at 10:10 in the living room of the Rhode Island Country Club.

 As this preceded the Annual Luncheon and Awards Presentation, Blakely said the meeting would be very brief and highlighted only essential announcements. No roll call was taken as she knew all there clubs were there.

The minutes for both February and March meetings were available in hard copy at the check-in desk for anyone to review, as well as having been circulated ( at least February’s) by email previously. There were no corrections to the minutes, so they were filed as written.

**RIFGC News:**

Blakely thanked everyone for their work and support over the last year, recognizing it has been a whirlwind and she is now half way through her Presidency. She will be attending the NGC Convention in Philadelphia before the June meeting and hopes to return with awards in hand for RIFGC Clubs, so please come to that meeting scheduled for June 7.

At the check-in desk there was a schedule of the upcoming year’s events. Please take a look at them. And make note that the “Education Day” is changing... there will be a surprise and news of this forthcoming!  **Also, please be aware that the September Board meeting is one week earlier!**

**Committee Reports:**

Sheryl McGookin thanked all the people who hostesses at the Flower Show. . The reception RIFGC received for the Show was exciting.

**Life Member Group** President De Feldman reminded everyone of the upcoming meeting at the Dunes Club on July 26. LMG is awarding 2 scholarships and the recipients will be there. The luncheon fee is $43 and open to all. This is always a lovely day and please encourage and promote others to come and also join LMG for $100 lifetime dues. LMG members will be getting postcards about the event; there are some flyers on tables.

**1st VP** Deb Ort arrived late due to her zipper snafu (LOL!!) She reported that for the RIFGC Floral Fusion Flower show, the gardens looked lovely, Vera was a “STAR”, RIHBA loved us and will probably invite us back next year.

There will be the Polo event again on Sunday July 15 at the Charity day. Tickets are $20 and all proceeds go to RIFGC. Bring a picnic and lawn chair!

Finance Committee and Chair Vera Bowen presented the proposed 2018-2019 budget, copy of which is attached and filed with the minutes, and was unanimously approved. This year there is no need to “borrow” money from any capital accounts as the income generated from both Polo and the Flower Show brought in sufficient income to fund RIFGC activities.

The meeting was then turned over to Sue Redden who presided over the 88th Anniversary Awards Ceremony. As Sue presented the awards, there was a powerpoint slide presentation as well of each award. The program of the various awards presented to the member clubs is filed with the minutes.

Pictures were held until after the presentations, in an effort to move though with efficiency to get to our featured speaker before lunch.

Blakely presented Certificates of Recognition to those clubs celebrating anniversaries. She particularly wanted to mention that Perennial Planters was not able to be there due to a prior commitment of celebrating their 50th anniversary, but is so pleased they have found their way back to RIFGC>

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 and the featured program of “Flowers by Semia” was introduced.

Gorgeous floral demonstrations, discussion, delicious luncheon and a lovely afternoon followed.

Respectfully submitted,

Emmy Reade

Corresponding Secretary, RIFGC