Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs

Board Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2020

President Deb Ort was unable to attend today.

Vice President Sheryl McGookin called the meeting to order at 10:07 AM. Roll call was taken with 16 clubs present, no societies present, and 8 clubs absent.

Theminutes of the December meeting were sent out electronically. There being no corrections the minutes stand approved as sent.

Treasurer Paul Nunes reported the following:

**beginning balance as of November, 2019, $26,432.91**

Cash Receipts

Holiday Luncheon $240.00

Penny Pines $258.00

Education Day $820.00

TOTAL CASH RECEIPT $1,318.00

Disbursements

Education Day $200.00

Sakonnet Point Club $2,200.00

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS $ 2,400.41

**Ending balance, December 31, 2019 $25,350.50**

Clubs are reminded the deadline for the newsletter is 1/24/20. All information should be sent to Deb Ort.

Vice President Sheryl McGookin, no report.

Recording Secretary Nina Kurtz, no report.

Corresponding Secretary Kathy LaRiviere asked that any changes in contacts/or president’s information please see Kathy after the meeting. If you have anything today for Deb please give to Kathy and she will give it to Deb.

Standing Committee Chair Reports:

**Annual Report, Ann Huntoon,** Annual Meeting will be 4/23/20. Fliers are in folders. Annual Meeting and 90th Anniversary of RIFGC is being celebrated. $50. 00 checks to be sent to Lisa Pollack. Seating to be determined.

**Awards, Kathleen Damiani and Cheryl Celeste,** The NEGC Awards were given out at their Annual Meeting in October. Cindy Wood GC and Bristol GC were recipients of awards. In addition, 3 Publication awards were sent to National. Award #pub-1, 1 conservation award #EC-1 was sent to National. 1 roadside beautification award application #CB-1 was sent to National. 1 educational exhibit application #17A was sent to NEGC. 1 Member of Honor #SR-3 was sent to National.

All RIFGC award applications are due to Kathleen and Cheryl by **February 15th, 2020.** You can send them electronically or by mail to name and address on the application or to email address on the application.

De Feldman will receive applications for the Joan Pesola Award by 3/1/20. Submit a photo with name, club, where exhibited, and date.

**Blue Star,** **Sandi Tinyk,** fliers are on the table, clubs considering a BSMG should work with their towns on planning and permission to establish. These gardens should be planned prior to Memorial Day.

**By-Laws, Vera Bowen,** no report.

**Education Day, Vera Bowen**, no report.

**Environmental Concerns, Kathy Bessette,** Exeter recycled Christmas trees and placed them in the river for increased environmental effect.

**Flower Show, Judy Gray,** emails have been sent out to invite designers to participate in “Our World” flower show being held April 2-5, 2020. Kathy Thomas wrote the schedule. See Judy if interested in participating. Schedule is a work in progress. Class 1,2,6,10 are filled. Blakely Szosz commented there will be lots of youth participating, lots of volunteers helping, and a presence by the Career and Technology Schools. RI Builder’s are paying for designer’s flowers. Kathy LaRiviere is chairing the flower orders and distribution. Kathy encouraged designers to get water buckets to her with ID’s on them.

**Flower Show Schools, Candance Morgenstern,** Kathy LaRiviere has passed her Level I judges’ test. MA has Level II class.

**Habitat for Humanity (HFH), Linda Alves,** no report.

**Horticulture, Marjorie DeAngelis**, no report.

**Hospitality, Linda Alves**, thank you to Sogkonate for refreshments today. We still need coverage for February. Linda is replenishing supplies that are needed as well as organizing the items.

**Life Member, Sandi Tinyk,** Life Member luncheon will be held on August 13 at the Dunes Club. Program will be Julie Christina, Designer. Sandi reminded everyone that the luncheon is a fundraiser for the Scholarship Fund. Last year the luncheon was cancelled so there was no income to increase the scholarship fund. Please attend and support the fund. Students studying “environmental areas” in the US are eligible for scholarships. Applications are due February 1, 2020. Adelaide Clifford has applications today.

**Penny Pines,**  Paul Nunes reminded clubs to send monies to Paul Nunes, Treasurer, 292 County Road, Seekonk MA 02771. Checks are due by April 1, 2020 and should be made payable to RIFGC. $68.00 pays for a tray of 200 seedlings. Money may also be donated in honor/memory of someone.

**Programs, Blakely Szosz,** no report.

**Youth, Sheryl McGookin,** reminded clubs Smokey the Bear posters are due today.

**Webmaster, Kathy Thomas,** no report.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** Gentian GC is reviewing their bylaws. They asked if the Auditor should be a board position. Treasurer Paul Nunes answered the Auditor should be an independent reviewer.

De Feldman has brought and is donating many of her design books for board members to take and use as their own.

Judy Gray announced a Flora Winter Garden Show this weekend.

Sogkonate is reviewing their liability insurance for directors and officers. They were interested in sharing information with other clubs. Sogkonate GC has added insurance for drivers, carpools, and hired vehicles.

Edgewood has added directors and officers liability insurance at a cost of $88.00

Next meeting: February 27,2020 at Roger Williams Casino. 9:30 AM coffee, 10:00 AM business meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:57AM.

Nina L. Kurtz

Recording Secretary RIFGC