

**Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 28, 2022**

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President Sheryl McGookin called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM

Roll call was read by Recording Secretary, Linda Alves: clubs **12 present** and clubs **16 absent**

Minutes of the January 2022 board meeting were sent electronically; there were no changes or amendments January minutes are accepted and approved.

**Treasurer’s Report** – In Paul Nunes’ absence President Sheryl reported: January 1 to 31, 2022

**Operating Account**

**Beginning Balance, January 1, 2022 $ 17,303.85**

**Cash Receipts**

Programs – WAM Trip 644.00

 TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS 644.00

**Disbursements**

Programs Deposit – Sole Proprietor 233.00 Flower Show Staging 237.68

 Miscellaneous Safe Deposit Box, name tags 181.00

  TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 651.68

**Ending balance, January 31, 2022 $17,296.17**

**President’s Report:** President’s report February, 2022 board meeting

NHFGC is hosting the New England Garden Clubs, Inc., 6th Annual Meeting on October 18 – 19, 2022 (Tuesday and Wednesday) in Nashua at the Event Center/Courtyard Marriott. Two excellent presenters lined up to both entertain and educate. Arabella Dane will be coordinating a fabulous photography exhibit. More details will follow soon.

* NEGC: see the flyer - regional meeting is in Nashua NH 10/18-19 everyone is invited.
* Photography Group hosting Mollie Isaacs’ photo webinar March 22 4 to 5:30 pm; link on

 website.

NGC: Virtual Programs – see flyer about Doug Tallamy. The previous program was on Fredrick Law Olmsted. Please access NGC website to watch the programs through their posted links.

RIFGC:

 Sheryl and Judy Gray attended the Beginner Design Flower &Horticulture Show on February 23rd in Portsmouth. Sheryl thanked Judges Council for invitation and stated it was a very nice event and the designs were outstanding. Judy stated each design was executed beautifully! Sheryl will include entrant’s designs photos in the upcoming spring newsletter.

Upcoming Events

1. March 4th Field Trip to WAM for Art in Bloom
2. WYWW 3/9– Judy will give us an update
3. April RIFGC Flower Show – 4/7-10
4. April 1st – Spring Newsletter due date
5. April 28th – RIFGC Annual Meeting & Awards presentation
6. May 16-20 NGC Annual Convention
7. June 2nd – RIFGC Board meeting and JC Horticulture Show and Youth Photo contest.

Also look for info on -

* garden clubs hosting garden tours this summer
* July fundraiser at the Polo Club
* Fall LM fundraiser at Bernie’s house
* Garden Club plant sales

Sheryl reminded clubs to email her with info on upcoming club events so they can be added to the RIFGC Calendar and uploaded to the RIFGC Website.

Sheryl thanked everyone who is working behind the scenes to make these events happen & successful, please know that all your time and hard work is appreciated, connecting and caring is happening with in the Federation.

**Vice President’s Report:**

Flower Show:

* Staging: one mannequin is missing need it returned immediately. Judy will be happy to pick up the mannequin.
* There are 7 openings in design
* 5 openings in botanical arts.

You are welcome to build your design at home, bring it in and do finishing touches at your pedestal. Judges’ Council members can help with design questions.

Contact Kathy Bessette to help hostess the RIFGC Show.

Art in Bloom Program:

Judy has entered a floral design for an Art in Bloom Show at Worcester Art Museum beginning of March.

Judy thanked Sandi Tinyk for setting up the Bus Trip to this years’ Flora in Winter at the Worcester Art Museum. This is Judy’s second year as a participant in the show.

**WYWW**

Judy reported:

WYWW meeting: Mentorship was the topic there were no attendees. Judy requested topic input suggestions/thoughts and asked membership if an alternate day or time would work better? Judy asked that presidents be sure to forward WYWW info to their club members. She will re-work the concept this summer to better serve garden clubs. The Next WYWW is March 8 at 6 pm. Judy will send the Zoom Link.

**Recording Secretary: Linda Alves**– Linda requested members to save their 28 oz cans for the Juniors Arrangements. The cans need to be clean with the label intact and can be brought to the RIFGC board meeting in March.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Kathy Bessette **–** Kathy reported she still needs Hostesses for the RI Home and Flower Show. The currents openings include Thursday 12-3, 3-6 and 6-9 pm, Friday 6-9 pm. Saturday: 10 am – 1 pm, 1-4, 4-7, 7-9pm and Sunday 1-4, 4-5 pm. Nina Kurtz stated she has 17 people volunteered and Sandi Tinyk offered to fill any daytime slots.

**Standing Committee Chair Reports**

Annual Meeting: Deb McCartin and Karen Cipriano have booked the Cranston Country Club for the RIFGC Annual meeting on April 28th, 2022. The Annual Awards luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 28 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at The Cranston Country Club, 69 Burlingame Road, Cranston, RI. The cost is $40 and Speaker details will be announced next week.

The meeting will begin at 10 am with a short business meeting followed by awards ceremony. Members will then enjoy 30 min social time with snacks and drinks followed by lunch and Speaker.
The meal choices are Chicken Margarita, Baked Cod, & Vegetarian option. Meal includes garden salad, vegetables, and desert with Coffee/tea.

Arbor Day: Deb Ort will report in upcoming Newsletter.

Awards: Cheryl Celeste/Kathleen Damiani – Awards are in the process of being judged. They are still waiting to hear from NEGC regarding Yearbook submissions. NEGC still doesn't have an awards chairperson.

Cheryl asked club presidents to let her know if their club has an anniversary divisible by 5 (example 5, 10, 50, 55 etc.) in the year 2022. Please email this information to: gardenclubckawards@gmail.com

Community Involvement: Linda Alves/Debra McCartin – no report

Education Day: Vera Bowen – no report

Environmental Concerns: Environmental Day will be postponed to spring of 2023.

Pollinators: Vera Bowen – see the winter newsletter

Birds: Sue Redden – Sue asked for any suggestions regarding bird for the Spring Newsletter. The Whip-Poor-Will was suggested by Judy Gray.

Design Study: Linda Kirkpatrick/Marjorie DeAngelis – Ann Huntoon reported:

It’s been a busy week for our RIFGC members of the Design Study Group as they entered their first flower show, “Our Neighborhood”. Exhibitions were in both Design and Horticulture; it was a fabulous show. The designs were remarkable, and their entries represented everything the designers have learned in class and gave them an experience in which to fine tune their natural talents. The horticulture specimens were interesting and well presented. Kudos to all the brave designers who stepped out of their comfort level and impressed us all. Candace Morgenstern added that there were 4 designs in each class along with horticulture, they were all fabulous.

Finance Committee Chair**:** Blakely Szosz – Blakely was meeting with RIBA – no report

Flower Show Schools**:** Candace Morgenstern –Candace reported there is a continuous need for judges; there is a course April 12-14th, 2022 in Milford MA; those interested should contact Candace.

Historian**:** Kathy LaRiviere – Kathy reminded members to send her Federation information that is published in newspapers or flyers. She would like to compile RIFGC news for Sheryl’s term as president. Sheryl stated she will provide the framed Shakespeare’s Head Garden plan and contact information to Kathy so she can contact Providence Historical Society who has offered to put this piece of history on display.

Horticulture: Marjorie DeAngelis – no report

Judges Council: Ann Huntoon – The deadline for submitting entries for the Sylvia Street Award, for creative floral design, and the Joan Pesola Award for traditional floral design are due on March 7th.

Submissions should be a 4”x6” or 5”x7” photo of the design. The back of the photo should describe the design with the show name, location, garden club affiliation and date exhibited.

The designs for both awards must have been exhibited at an NGC or RIFGC related function in 2021. The applications are judged by out -of- state judges.

Further information may be obtained on the RIFGC website under awards.

Please mail photos to:

Ann Huntoon

PO Box 208

Hope, RI 02831

401 823-8384

401 258-9715 (text)

annhuntoon@gmail.com

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Life Member: Sheryl reported for Cathy Moore: There will be a donation box in the form of a planter to raise funds for scholarship along with a tri-fold display and brochures explaining the mission statement of LMG. This will all be displayed at the RIFGC Flower Show near the Hostess table.
LMG will hold a cocktail party of “Wine and Flowers” in September. This will be held at the home of Bernie Larivee. More details to follow.

Life Member Scholarship: No report

Photography: Candace Morgenstern – Candace reported: There will be a Horticulture Specialty Show on June 2nd, 2022 at the RWP Casino and a Youth Photography Show, all of which will be chaired by Cathy Moore. There are 4 class entries: Pollination and Nature, Anything in your Garden, Pets in the Garden. Ages are preschool to 7 years, 8 – 12 years, 13 – 18 years.  All will be judged and any child in RI or MA may participate.

Programs: Sandi Tinyk – Sandi thanked Paul Nunes for handling registration and receiving the checks for the “Flora in Winter” trip. Sandi also thanked Judy Gray for her fabulous floral design demonstration.

March: Costa Rica trip presentation by Colette Travel.

April: Annual Meeting/speaker

June: Horticulture show

Let me know if there is a topic you would like to hear more about in the coming year. Sandi.tinyk7@gmail.com

Program Book: Sandi Tinyk/Vera Bowen – Program book on website

Properties: - Interim Sheryl McGookin

Social Media: Blakely Szosz –If any garden club has an event, please message her on Face Book or send her an email blakelydesign39@gmail.com. Blakely encourages presidents to send photos from club programs.

Ways & Means: Michael Seebeck /Blakely Szosz – No report

Website: Kathy Thomas – No Report

Youth Programs: Amanda Nickerson Toste – Amanda reported: Candace Morgenstern and I met in person to discuss the different classes for the photography show. See Photography report above.

We are currently drafting a framework based on the National Standards and Guidelines for photography shows. We are making modifications where we see appropriate for youth. Once we have our draft finalized, we will create flyers to distribute to all of the local clubs, community schools and students at large.

We did get approval to exhibit at the Federation Horticulture show on June 2 at the Roger Williams casino. We felt that this location would be the most central in the state and the easiest for families and patrons to get to.  Our theme will fit into the description of the Horticulture Show. Please look for more details coming soon.

Old Business

Barrington Garden Club Garden Tour chaired by Blakely Szosz ‘Sharing our Gardens’ which will include a Small Standard Flower Show called ‘We are Having a Party!’ chaired by Sue Redden. June 21 is the cocktail party and opening night reception and June 22 is the garden tour and flower show.

New Business – Sandy Tinyk reported that the March Mini-program will be a guest speaker from Colette Travel who will present on the Spring 2023 Costa Rica trip.

Meeting adjourned at: 10:54 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda L. Alves

RIFGC Recording Secretary

Mini Program: Vice President Judy Gray gave a fantastic virtual demonstration with lots of information on floral designing with art.