

**Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**September 15, 2022**

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President Sheryl Hanson McGookin called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

**President’s Report: Presidents Repor**t:

Kathy Bessette & Paul Nunes are away today, as well as members of Judges Council as they are judging the Hameho Horticulture show this morning.

NEGC Board meeting: October 18 and 19th in Nashua NH; Register by Sept 27th for the Event, October 5th for the hotel Room Event rate extended to include Oct 17th & 20th.

NGC Board meeting is in St Louis next week, Vera and I will be attending.

Kathleen Damiani (WCGC) has volunteered to be our new Webmaster, Sandra Jack (EGC) has moved from Newsletter editor to LMG Scholarship Chair, and Deb Matson (BGC) has taken over the Staging Chair position.

Busy fall! Upcoming events: NEGC meeting in NH, NGC meeting in St Louis, Plum Beach Luncheon at the Dunes and Hameho GC Horticulture in Barrington RI, LMG Fundraiser last weekend, JC met earlier this week at Green Animals topiary, WYWW Sept 28th & October 26th, Gentian Garden Club event October 15th 9am-1pm 'Flower & Fleas, ’Education Day November 2nd, December 1st Holiday Luncheon.

We have had 6 and after today, 7 flower shows; it is difficult to include all the event photos to the Newsletter so we are creating a file/link that we will share with the membership that will be a gallery of all these events. If you have photos of these events, please share them with me along with any details. I am hoping that this link will become a permanent resource as well as a record of our Flower Show events.

When we look to the Spring, we have the RIFGC Flower show March 30th to April 2nd, Annual Luncheon and Induction Ceremony April 27th. Youth Photo Contest date TBD and Art in Bloom with Providence Art Club fall of 2023.

Please see the upcoming Newsletter Calendar to note upcoming events, it is a printable document. Please send me club events so I can get them in the calendar and have Kathy blast them out to the membership. There will also be an event posting on the website once Erik has fully turned the website over to Kathleen.

Roll call was read by Recording Secretary, Linda Alves: **7** clubs **present** and **20** clubs **absent**

\*Governor Francis Farm Garden Club has dissolved, their notification has been accepted in good standing and they have been invited to rejoin if their situation changes.

**Treasurer’s Report**– Paul Nunes reported: June 1 to August 31, 2022

Operating Account:

**Beginning balance; June 1, 2022,**  **$** 36,424.19

**Cash Receipts:**

Member Club Dues 815.50

Polo 360.00

TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS 1,175.50

**Disbursements:**

Insurance 1608.00

Storage 2,370.12

Annual Luncheon Expense 14.52

President’s Expense NGC Convention 578.20

Miscellaneous Sec’y of State Filing 22.00

Website 127.02

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 4,719.86

**Ending balance, August 31, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**$ 32,879.83**

**Vice President’s Report:** Judy Gray –

RIFGC Specialty Flower Show theme is ‘Galleria - Live Artfully’

Event Dates:  March 30 through April 2, 2023 at the RI Convention Center

The show will Include Design, Education, Botanical Arts and Youth

We are looking to expand the Youth portion of the show by adding a competition with Window Boxes and Urns; the youth to compete in these events will be pooled from the schools that participate in show preparation.  A total of 1500 students participate in RI Home 7 Garden Show set-up.

Judges Council Chair and Judge Ann Huntoon will be writing the schedule.

Judy Gray, Blakely Szosz, and Sheryl McGookin met with RIBA yesterday to cement our commitment to the RI Home Show

**Wet Your Whistle Wednesday (WYWW):** Judy Gray - 4th Wed of the Month

Time:  6:45 -7:45

We now have a Pro Zoom account allowing up to 100 guests on the call and unlimited time allowance.

ID 579 295 4325    Password: Af0GJL (0 in the password is zero)

Sept 28; Awards Review with Cheryl Celeste and Kathleen Damiani

Oct 26; Guests will include Cathy Moore & Life Member Group members

**Recording Secretary: Linda Alves**–

**Corresponding Secretary:** Kathy Bessette –

**Standing Committee Chair Reports**

Annual Meeting:

Arbor Day: Sheryl for Deb Ort - **Tree Walk: Eisenhower Park & Touro Synagogue**

Wednesday, September 21st (9:00 – 10:00 am)

**Admission is free**

[**www.newporttreeconservancy.org**](http://www.newporttreeconservancy.org/)

Awards: – Cheryl Celeste/Kathleen Damiani

Please submit two program books at the October 27th RIFGC board meeting for awards review. The NEGC application is on their website, it is required to compete.

The Member Award of Honor is due to the RIFGC award chairs by January 1, 2023.

National Garden Club Awards are due December 15th. Applications are on the National Garden Club website. These awards need to be sent to: Cheryl Celeste, 90 Salem Ave., Cranston, RI 02920.

Please send Kathleen an email listing the awards your club is applying for, New England and National awards. We need to have that information for National Garden Club.

Community Involvement: Linda Alves/Debra McCartin – we have had two meetings this summer with Hattie Ide Chaffee Home. Heather Fraga and Barry Zeltzer would like to create a garden club at HICH. To date they have all, but one position filled on their executive board and their program book. Is in development. A vote will be taken in January 2023 to accept them as a federated garden club.

Education Day: Vera Bowen – March 15th 2023 9:30-2:45pm at RWP Casino

Environmental Concerns: Sarah Lee

Pollinators: Vera Bowen – Article on Asian Jumping Worms by Vera see upcoming Newsletter

Birds: Sue Redden – Article on bufflehead duck by Sue – see upcoming Newsletter

Design Study: Linda Kirkpatrick/Marjorie DeAngelis – **September 21, 2022** – Cathy Moore Portsmouth Friends Church, Portsmouth, RI, September is full. **October 19, 2022** Sue Redden – Barrington United Methodist Church Barrington, RI and **January 18, 2023** Vicki Iannu – Barrington United Methodist Church, Barrington RI

Advanced Design Classes offered after each Design Study class – schedule to be determined

Finance Committee Chair**:** Blakely Szosz –

Flower Show Schools**:** Linda Kirkpatrick - Flower Show Study Design classes

Historian**:** Kathy LaRiviere –

Horticulture: Marjorie DeAngelis –

Invasive Species: Aidan McGookin – article on black swallow wort by Aidan – see upcoming Newsletter

Judges Council: Candace Morgenstern –

Life Member: Cathy Moore –

LMG had a fundraiser Saturday September 10 at the home of Bernie Larivee and his partner John. It was title “Cocktails in the Conservatory”. It was a huge success with over 150 people in attendance. We had an open bar, hors d’oeuvres, dinner, silent auction and raffle for the floral designs representing signature cocktails. The preliminary funds raised are $7000.00 but the expenses aren’t completely counted. Thanks to Bernie and John for opening their home to the LMG and thanks to Barbara Curry, Joan McLoughlin and their helpers for organizing the silent auction and all others who helped make this event happen.

We are currently looking for students to apply for the LMG scholarship. RISLA has put our scholarship information on their website. I have also contacted both URI and Roger Williams University’s Environmental Sciences departments and they are both willing to help us find students interested in the LMG scholarship. I gave them the link to our website, so they have the information to give to students. Please let us know of anyone student that might be interested in the LMG scholarship.

We have a new Scholarship Chair, Sandra Jack. Ann Gralnek and I will give her the information she needs to excel in her new position.

Total of 11 new LMG members – September 2021 – May, 2022

Life Member Scholarship: Sandra Jack – see above LMG report

Newsletter: Ruby McGookin - material and event dates are due to me ASAP, Ruby and I will be working on fall Newsletter this Monday. The winter Newsletter will be a cookbook, Ruby’s idea; please talk to your members & send me your favorite baked good recipe.

Photography: Candace Morgenstern – photography & Youth chairs are working together to edit the Youth Photo Contest Schedule and get it out to you soon, event will be this summer, 2023.

Programs: Sandi Tinyk – The Costa Rica trip is filled anyone still interested will be on wait list. A bee presentation at October meeting and Judy Gray will do design for holiday luncheon.

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

Properties: Deborah Matson – Please contact Deborah Matson if anyone wants to borrow anything from the storage unit.

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](mailto:blakelydesign39@gmail.com). Blakely encourages presidents to send photos from club programs.

Ways & Means: Michael Seebeck /Blakely Szosz –

Website: Kathleen Damiani – send edits or additions to RIFGC website to Kathleen, please CC Sheryl.

Youth Programs: Amanda Nickerson Toste –

Old Business: Hameho Garden Club’ Flower Show in Barrington at 2 pm September 15th.

New Business –

Rochelle Kieron and Annette Jarvis of Portsmouth GC will be Hostess Co-Chairs for the October RIFGC Board Meeting.

Edgewood GC plant sale at Pawtuxet Village on Saturday, September 17th; 9:00 A.M. to noon.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted by:

RIFGC Recording Secretary,

Linda L. Alves