

**Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs**

**Board Meeting Minutes**

**October 27, 2022**

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Vice President Judy Gray called the meeting to order at 10:15 A.M.

**President’s Report: Presidents Elect Repor**t: Judy Gray

Judy thanked Rochelle Kieron and Annette Jarvis from the Portsmouth Garden Club for their club’s generous donation of baked goods for the board meeting. Judy Gray stood in for our President Sheryl McGookin who is out of town today. Sheryl attended the NGC Annual Fall Board meeting in St. Louis along with Vera Bowen. Judy joined them both at the NEGC Annual Fall Meeting in Nashua, NH. Sheryl reported at the NEGC Fall Board meeting about the RIFGC’s 2021-22 activities & accomplishments. This report included six flower or horticulture shows: RI State Flower Show, local garden club flower shows, a Judges Council Horticultural Show, and RIFGC Design Workshop Flower Show.

RIFGC is looking forward to the addition of the Hattie Ide Chaffee Garden Club (HICGC). They will meet at the HIC Nursing Home in East Providence. We will be meeting their board members at the RIFGC January meeting.

Please read the September RIFGC Newsletter if you haven’t already; see articles on invasive species, birds, ticks and Lyme disease. Also note the piece by Life Member Group, photos from the Newport Polo Event and the Designers Workshop Flower Show. Please contact your membership for a couple good recipes to include in the RIFGC Winter Newsletter. Send recipes to Sheryl via email. See the September Newsletter for more details.

Roll call was read by Recording Secretary, Linda Alves:  **12** clubs **present** and **14** clubs **absent**

**Treasurer’s Report**– Judy Gray gave report in the absence of Paul Nunes who was out of town.

**September 1 to September 30, 2022**

**Operating Account:**

**Beginning balance;** August 31, 2022 **$ 32,879.83**

**Cash Receipts:**

Member Club Dues $161.00

TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS $161.00

**Disbursements:**

Holiday Luncheon Venue deposit $200.00

Vice President Expense Zoom subscription $160.39

Zoom subscription

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS 360.39

**Ending balance, September 30, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**$ 32,680.00**

**Vice President’s Report:** Judy Gray – reminder RIFGC does not meet in November but there are events in November.

Events:

Newport ADS Daffodil meeting

Education Day has been moved to March 15th, 2023 details to come

A couple of requests:

1) We are looking for someone with computer skills to create a map showing where each RIFGC is located. This map will be posted on the website.

2) We are looking for a Garden Club to Host the January 26th meeting. RIFGC provides the beverages and paper products, the club that volunteers will provide the food and centerpiece.

3) We now have a whiteboard-calendar; the calendar will be available at each board meeting. Clubs are encouraged to add club events to the calendar. Feel free to take a photo of the calendar. This is another tool to help prevent the overlap of events. As always you can contact Sheryl and Judy, they will get your event listed on the website, social media, email blast, and the Newsletter Calendar.

4) Cathy Felton contacted RIFGC on behalf of the American Daffodil Society. They invited members of RI Federation Garden Clubs to a coffee and conversation of Sunday Nov. 6 from 10am-11am at The Newport Harbor Island Resort (Gurney’s Newport Resort) 1 Goat Island rd Newport RI. Look for information on their annual ADS Show in Newport.

5) RIFGC Specialty Flower Show: Galleria - Live Artfully

Dates:  March 30, 31, April 1, 2, 2023

RI Convention Center

Ann Huntoon is writing the schedule and will have a working schedule by late November.

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

Time:  6:45 -7:45

We now have a Zoom Pro- Acct so we can host up to 100 guests for unlimited time.

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

Sept 28 - Awards Review with Cheryl Celeste and Kathleen Damiani

Oct 26 - Life Member Group

Jan 25th -

**Recording Secretary:** Linda Alves– Please email any reports from this board meeting to Sheryl and Judy with copy to Linda.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Kathy Bessette – Kathy will send out a blast with any new information.

**Standing Committee Chair Reports**

Annual Meetings: Deb McCartin/Karen Cipriano - The Annual Holiday Party update

December 1st at the Old Grist Mill Tavern, 390 Fall River Ave., Seekonk MA.

Business Meeting is at 10:00 A.M. followed by social gathering and luncheon.

Cost per person is $48.00 please send payment to Paul Nunes at 920 County St. Seekonk MA 02771 **before** November 18th include your meal choice, garden club and phone number on check. See the flyer for more information.

Judy Gray, President Elect will be doing a floral demonstration during dessert. Each club should please bring a holiday centerpiece for their table. The centerpiece will be part of the event drawings.

Arbor Day: Deb Ort - no report

Awards: Cheryl Celeste/Kathleen Damiani - The program books are due October 27th RIFGC.

National Garden Club Awards are due December 15th. Applications are on the National Garden Club website and these awards can be sent directly to NGC.

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

The RIFGC awards are due February 15th.

Please send Kathleen an email as to what awards you have applied for both New England and National Garden Clubs. We need to have that information for National Garden Club.

Community Involvement: Linda Alves/Debra McCartin – A vote will be taken at the January 26th 2023 board meeting as to whether or not to accept the Hattie Ida Chaffee Garden Club into the RIFGC.

Education Day: Vera Bowen – March 1st, 2023, at RWP Casino – more details to follow.

Environmental Concerns: Sarah Lee – reported on the details, physical space, programs, educational displays, and take-away projects that will be part of Education/Environmental day.

Ex-Officio: Deborah Ort - reported Nominating Committee Kathy LaRiviere, Ann Huntoon and Marjorie DeAngelis for slate of officers. The installation will be April 27th at the Annual luncheon.

Pollinators: Vera Bowen – see recent Newsletter

Birds: Sue Redden – see recent Newsletter

Design Study: Linda Kirkpatrick/Marjorie DeAngelis –

1. **September 21, 2022,** Cathy Moore Portsmouth Friends Church, Portsmouth, RI
2. **October 19, 2022,** Sue Redden Barrington United Methodist Church Barrington, RI
3. **January 18, 2023,** Vicki Iannuccillo Barrington United Methodist Church, Barrington RI

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

Finance Committee Chair**:** Blakely Szosz – committee will be meeting soon

Flower Show Schools**:** Linda Kirkpatrick -

Historian**:** Kathy LaRiviere – no report

Horticulture: Marjorie DeAngelis –

Invasive Species: Aidan McGookin – see the newsletter under pen name Lorax Limelight

Judges Council: Candace Morgenstern – Judges council has scheduled their Ruth Anderson Workshop for the beginning of December; all those attending have been notified.

Life Member: Cathy Moore – appeared at the WYWW event about Life Member Group. LMG currently has 346 active members. The Life member group will be visiting local garden clubs to provide information and encourage new membership. Please contact Cathy Moore or Sandra Jack if you know friend or family member who may qualify for the LMG scholarship.

Life Member Scholarship: Sandra Jack – see above

Newsletter: Ruby McGookin – please be sure to share the latest Newsletter with your membership.

Photography: Candace Morgenstern – Event will be this summer, July 2023.

Program Book: Sandi Tinyk/Vera Bowen – Sandi and Vera Bowen are working on Field Trip Section of the digital Program Book. Sandi asked for club presidents or program chairs to email any information on successful field trips; Sandi at [sandi.tinyk7@gmail.com](mailto:sandi.tinyk7@gmail.com) and Vera at [verabowen9092@gmail.com](mailto:verabowen9092@gmail.com) Please include trip details and your phone number.

Programs: Sandi Tinyk –

Properties: Deborah Matson – Please contact Deborah Matson if anyone wants to borrow anything from the storage unit; deborahmatson@aol.com.

Social Media: Blakely Szosz –If any garden club has an event, please message her on Face Book or send her an email at [blakelydesign39@gmail.com](mailto:blakelydesign39@gmail.com). Blakely encourages presidents to send her photos from their club’s programs.

Ways & Means: Michael Seebeck /Blakely Szosz – Blakely brought various styles and sizes of Foxgloves along with a sign-up sheet to send check payable to RIFGC for purchase of gloves and mail to Paul Nunes, treasurer.

50 Narcissus bulbs were offered as an opportunity drawing at the end of the meeting.

Website: Kathleen Damiani/Erik Hanson – Please send any updates, additions or edits to president Sheryl McGookin and Vice President Judy Gray. They will forward to Kathleen and Erik Hanson.

Youth Programs: Amanda Nickerson Toste –

Old Business: None

New Business: **Vera Bowen**, **Awards Chairperson for New England Garden Clubs** presented this year’s awards from the Annual Fall Meeting. The Award winners were

1. The Nancy H. Atwell Award to Barrington Garden Club for its outstanding Publicity and monthly articles in the town publication “The Sound”.
2. The Lina F. Wagner Perennial Garden Award to Allison Mercer, Barrington Garden Club for creating and maintaining her beautifully landscaped perennial gardens.
3. The Maria J. Nahom Table Design Award to De Feldman, Barrington Garden club for a wonderful Safari Table Design at the RIFGC Specialty Show.
4. The Jeanne-Marie Parks Award to Blakely Szosz, Barrington Garden club for her amazing educational exhibit on bees.

The Portsmouth GC gave a brief report on what’s going on in their club. The club was formed in 1934 and they have had 10 new members join over the past two years. The PGC has many Civic Beautification projects: including The Legion Park – memorial to veterans & The Portsmouth Library entrance way. They also provide wreaths for Town Buildings and host Annual Plant sales to benefit Library as well as their club.

Announcement: Judy Gray is president elect for 2023-2025

**Mini Program:** Blakely Szosz gave a mini-informational program on honeybees. This was followed by a short quiz; the winner received a jar of her delicious honey.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted by

RIFGC Recording Secretary,

Linda L. Alves