

Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.

Board Meeting Agenda

June 4, 2026

Hattie Ide Chaffee Home

President Kathleen Damiani called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

Carol Horta, Recording Secretary did the Roll Call

Clubs Present: __11__ Affiliates Present: ____0__

President's Report:

Kathleen thanked the **Hattie Ide Chaffee Home**, and especially **Heather Fraga**, for the Hospitality and for hosting the Horticulture Show.

She reminded everyone that directly after the meeting, the **Horticulture Show** presented by the Judge's Counsel will be downstairs at 11:00 AM.

Executive Board Reports

Treasurer Sally Troup gave a report on the federation's **financials**. See attached. She also reported that members clubs donated \$934.15 to Plant A Tree this past year.

Recording Secretary Carol Horta asked members and committee chairs to please provide either a hard-copy or electronic **copy of their report** in order to facilitate more accurate minutes.

Corresponding Secretary Heather Fraga reported that we need two more clubs to send in their **new presidents' information**.

President's Agenda

Kathleen distributed a sign-up for clubs to perform **hostess duties** at board meetings this year. Thank you in advance for signing up.

There were no reports from **Standing Committees** at this meeting.

Community Project Award Reports

Kate Kelly from Sogkonate reported on the on-going efforts at the Little Compton Town Playground. See attached.

Heather Fraga from Hattie Ide Chaffee reported on the work completed at the flagpole. She invited everyone to take a look at the project while visiting. See attached.

This fall, **Plum Beach** and **Western Cranston** will have reports as well. Next year, **Gentian** and **Bristol** will report on their 2026 grant projects.

Awards

Kathleen reminded everyone to take a look at the **NEGC award list** found on the their website. If you submitted for RIFGC and you want it forwarded to NEGC, please send her a new application. All applications have to be digital. Kathleen will automatically forward all the winning year books.

Kathleen presented the following awards:

From RIFGC:

Wantaknohow was the winner of award **#12 Frances M. Poiter Membership Award** (biggest increase in membership) and **#20 Class 1 Yearbook Award**.

Citation

Blakely Szosz Flower Show Consultant. Great job on the Flower Show Schedule!

From NEGC

Youth Poetry Contest second grade — **Rory Imhoff, Hamcho Garden Club** (who happens to be the grandson of Eileen Dennis).

Youth Poetry Contest fifth grade — **Vivian Vigneault, Barrington Garden Club.**

Smokey Bear Woodsy Owl Poster Contest fifth grade — **Vivian Vigneault, Barrington Garden Club.**

From NGC

EC1 Conservation Activities Certificate of Commendation is presented to **Barrington Garden Club.**

MAE 4D Publications Certificate of Appreciation is presented to **Barrington Garden Club.**

Youth Poetry Contest second grade — **Rory Imhoff, Hamcho Garden Club.**

Roadside Plantings — **Quonoquott** (the daffodils!).

NGC Scholarship — **Taylor Sirois** (\$4,000).

RIFGC Newsletter—

Kathleen reminded all to please **send your pictures and announcements** of your club happenings to the newsletter (**Judy Gray at rifgcnewsletter@gmail.com**).

Next meeting is on **September 24th, 2026**

Old Business

Please send in any Art in Bloom, Flower show, or any other news that you want everyone to know about in flyer format to Kathleen.

New Business

The **Polo match** will be **September 13th** this year. Ticket prices will be \$25.00. All proceeds to go to the LMF scholarships fund. Please consider coming. We had 30 people last year; let's break that number!

Kinney Azalea Gardens has a fun **all-natural tree-decorating event** at the holidays starting in November. Keep a look-out for more information and think about participating.

Sogkonate announced that they will have a program about **Asian Jumping Worms** in August to which all are invited.

Edgewood is hosting a **Garden Tour** on Saturday, June 20.

Barrington is hosting **Blooms by the Bay Garden Tour** on Tuesday, June 23.

Meeting adjourned at 10:39.

Respectfully submitted:
Carol Horta

Rhode Island Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.		Operating Account	
Treasurer's Report			
March 1 - May 31, 2026			
Beginning balance, March 1, 2026			\$ 35,563.40
Cash Receipts			
Member Club Dues		\$ 4,400.00	
Flower Show	RIBA Show Promoter Fee	\$ 25,000.00	
Annual Luncheon		\$ 3,283.00	
Annual Luncheon Raffle		\$ 826.00	
Interest		\$ 83.65	
Design Study		\$ 300.00	
Plant-A-Tree	Pass through	\$ 150.00	
LMG Donation		\$ 175.00	
Ways and Means - Fundraiser	Collette Trip - Paris	\$ 4,369.20	
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS			\$ 38,586.85
Disbursements			
Administrative Expense	State Filing Fee, checks	\$ 231.63	
	Insurance, Legal	\$ 297.00	
Committee Expense	Awards	\$ 1,990.00	
	Annual Luncheon	\$ 3,110.93	
	Flower Show	\$ 4,771.07	
	Life Member Group	\$ 400.00	
Member Club Enrichment	Community Project Awards	\$ 1,000.00	
	Arbor Day Grants	\$ 300.00	
	Education Day	\$ 243.17	
	Plant-a-Tree	\$ 217.25	
Officers' Expenses	President Attend NGC, STL	\$ 1,686.29	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS			\$ 14,247.34
Ending balance, May 31, 2026			\$ 59,902.91

Sogkonate Garden Club

Little Compton Town Playground Garden Renovation

Once again, we extend our sincerest thanks to RIFGC for awarding our Club \$500 in April 2024.

It's been over two years, but we have finally reached near completion of our project. We've made a lot of progress in the last year.

We first had to hire "Dig-Safe" to locate underground wires that service 2 tall flood lights on the property. It turned out these wires didn't not belong to any public utility so we had to engage a "private locator" to pin down their position since the Town had no record of their installation.

We then engaged Little Compton's Town Tree Warden for most of the heavy lifting. He excavated the entire site to a depth of 12", replaced the soil with fresh, new farm soil; removed the two old wooden structures and gave our original shrubs a hard-pruning. He temporarily moved our Club's commemorative stone bench off the site, but that will be repositioned once the planting is complete.

One of our members designed a garden plan for us that includes the addition of several new shrubs and an 8' X 15' oval perennial garden for native seasonal flowers. We're preparing a budget for these plantings and will hopefully put them in the ground this Fall subject to additional fund-raising.

Here is our financial accounting of our project so far:

INCOME:

RIFGC COMM PROJECT AWARD:	\$500
TEAM DONATIONS:	\$700
TOTAL:	\$1,200

EXPENSES:

TOWN TREE WARDEN:	\$635
PRIVATE LOCATOR	\$170
TOTAL:	\$805

REMAINING BALANCE: \$395

Recording Secretary



HATTIE IDE CHAFFEE HOME

Hattie Ide Chaffee Garden Club RIFGC Community Project Award Follow-Up Report

We are pleased to submit this follow-up report on our Flagpole Beautification Project, funded in part by the generous \$500 RIFGC Community Project Award.

Project Overview

Our goal was to transform the area around our facility's flagpole into a meaningful outdoor space for our residents, families, and community members. We are happy to report that the project is now complete and the results have exceeded our expectations!

How the Funds Were Used

The \$500 award was used to purchase the following:

Pollinator-friendly seasonal flowers and plants

Quality soil and mulch

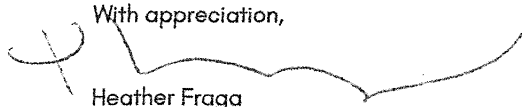
Project Outcome

The flagpole area has been beautifully transformed into a pollinator garden, a peaceful, colorful retreat where residents, families, and visitors can sit among blooming flowers, observe butterflies and bees, and enjoy a moment of quiet reflection in nature. Our entire garden club membership participated in the project from planning through planting and the garden is now thriving.

Gratitude

We are deeply grateful to the RIFGC for this opportunity. This award made it possible for us to create something truly special for our community, a living, growing gift that will be enjoyed for years to come.

With appreciation,



Heather Fraga

Director of Life Enrichment & Co-President,
Hattie Ide Chaffee Garden Club

