



SOUTH BREVARD GARDEN CLUB ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 4, 2022

Mission Statement: SBGCA is a community-based organization providing a link between the members of six garden clubs in the greater Melbourne area, potential gardeners and the general public. It's objective is to increase the knowledge of horticulture, conservation, civic beautification and environmental focus.

The Board meeting was called to order by President, Joyce Barton at 10:00 am. She read the Mission Statement, then led the group in the pledge to the American flag.

Lisa Robinson gave an inspirational reading by Harriet Ann Jacobs

Joyce thanked the Garden Club by the Sea for hosting the meeting today. Jerry Donaldson introduced their speaker, Jennifer Marx, who gave a wonderful and informative presentation about the history of gardening.

Board Members present include:

- Joyce Barton, President
- Lisa Robinson, Vice President
- Lydia Barbour, Secretary
- Kathryn Merry, Treasurer

The revised **minutes** of the March 7th were further revised to acknowledge that Island Garden Club matched the \$300 donation provided by SBGCA to Hog Point Cove. Those minutes have been revised accordingly and are posted on the SBGCA.org website.

Treasurer's Report: Kathryn reported that deposits during March totaled \$320.77, which included income from door prizes, plant donations and web account payments. The total at the end of March was \$2438.67, which did not include \$1000 in expenditures, \$100 for the library and \$300 donated to Hog Point Cove/Turtle Conservancy, FFGC's Wekiva Youth Camp and the Educational Horizons Charter School.

Roll Call of the Garden Clubs:

Beach Gardeners of Melbourne Beach (2 members present) Joyce Barton, President, reported:

- 26 members. Monthly meetings are the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 pm.
- Their last meeting had to be cancelled because the Town Commission needed the time slot.
- The presenter at their 4/19 meeting will be Bonnie Wells, a Doctor of Plant Medicine from UF/IFAS. She will talk about Florida Friendly Landscaping.
- At the 5/7 Founders Day event, they will have a "vendor" table to promote club membership, offer free flower planting for children and sell plants.

Garden Club by the Sea (18 members present) – Valerie Karas, President reported:

- 38 members. Monthly meetings are the 3rd Wednesday at 9:30 am.
- Their last meeting was a field trip to Country Roses Garden, but rain caused it to be canceled.
- The program at their 4/20 meeting is to be determined.
- The May meeting will be the last until September and it will be the end of year luncheon.

- They continue to sell bricks to be installed at Lily Park. Proceeds support local horticulture, scholarships and programs

Indian Harbor Beach Garden Club (5 members present) – Robin Chang, President. Jane Mandeville reported:

- Monthly meetings are September through May on the 3rd Wednesday at 10 AM.
- Their March speaker was Lauralee Walker who provided an interesting and timely talk about Florida Wildflowers.
- They also elected new officers and their new President will be Suzy Hodge for the next year. That will get them back onto the cycle specified by their Bylaws. Officer installation will be at the Eau Gallie Yacht Club in May.
- Treasurer Joyce Schofield and others grew plants which they sold at the Cocoa Agricultural Day, March 26, raising \$1200 over the two-day event.

Island Garden Club (2 members present) – Julia Hill, President. Kathryn Merry reported:

- 15 members. Monthly meetings are September through May on the 2nd Wednesday at Noon.
- IGC voted to match \$300 SBGCA donation to Barrier Island Center (BIC) for Hog Point Cove.
- In March, toured Valkaria Gardens followed by lunch at Lazy Turtle Riverfront with great attendance.
- 3/31, attended workshop at Hog Point Center titled Restoration Stewardship.
- April program will be by Eric Perna, owner Go Natives Landscaping.
- Working with Hog Point Cove on landscaping.

Melbourne Garden Club (3 members present) – Sandi Dix, President, reported:

- 41 Members. Monthly meetings are September through May on the 1st Friday at 10 am.
- April meeting presentation of Doug Tallamy on You-tube was interrupted by the loss of internet at the library. Members were sent the link so they could view it at home.
- Bylaws changes were made to increase dues from \$18 - \$20 and to ensure that each level of membership resulted in \$8 staying with MGC.
- Blue Star Marker landscaping has been planned with native plants. The location is on Route 1 near the FPL Ice Plant. There is no irrigation.
- We plan to participate in Melbourne's combined Earth and Arbor Day celebration on 4/22 at Crane Creek Golf Course. Surf Riders will be installing a native plant area and the City will be giving away trees. We'll be there with business cards, brochures and refreshments to advertise the club.
- We are planning to celebrate 90 years of Federation with FFGC in the fall.
- Officers will be installed at the May end-of-year meeting, followed by lunch at Squid Lips.

Port Malabar Garden Club (4 members present) – Becky Savage, President. Lydia Barbour reported:

- 38 Members. Monthly meetings are September through May on the 2nd Friday at 9:30 am.
- Applied to rejoin FFGC. Our application will be accepted at the April Convention during the Business Meeting. After acceptance we will work with Valkaria Gardens to reclaim our Blue Star Marker and have it refurbished and installed, hopefully on Babcock Road outside the Gardens.
- Forgot to mention: Expecting acceptance we voted to raise our dues by \$5 to \$20 cover part of the annual fee per member. The rest will be managed through fund raisers.
- Recently held a plant/yard sale & basket raffle at Peace Lutheran Church, realizing \$1500 income.
- Finished landscaping area in front of Turkey Creek Preserve welcome sign. Maintenance will be ongoing to ensure survival through the summer. Rabbits seems to love the rudbeckia.

- Our May meeting will be our end of year luncheon held at Kiwi Tennis Club. Officer installation will happen then.

Meeting participants in today's meeting including the Board & Guests: 35

Committee Reports

Sunshine Report – none

Plant Sale Report – Marci reported on the plants remaining which included lemon grass, pinecone ginger and bromeliads

Door Prize Drawing was held.

A beautiful arrangement of tulips, carnations & weeping conocarpus in an interesting container was donated by Mary for auction. Denise donated \$25 to SBGCA!

Old Business:

The website looks great. Every club has a landing page. Two charges went onto Julia's card for renewal. She will be reimbursed by SBGCA.

New Business:

None

Announcements:

SBGCA May meeting will be hosted by ICG with the You-Tube Video of Doug Tallamy talking about Homegrown National Park.

Meeting was adjourned for lunch.