



SOUTH BREVARD GARDEN CLUB ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - November 1, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President, Joyce Barton, at 10:01 AM. She led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. She reviewed the Objectives and Mission of the Association, which are:

Objectives as stated in the Bylaws are: "... to provide a link between the members of garden clubs, potential gardeners and the general public; to increase the knowledge of horticulture, conservation, floral design and civic beautification."

Mission Statement as modified in February 2020: The South Brevard Garden Club Association 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.

Lisa Robinson provided this inspirational reading which she condensed from something she found at the Morikami museum:

Strolling through a bamboo grove or viewing your favorite garden little by little we are encouraged to lay aside the chaos of a troubled time and gently nurture the capacity within to hear a more harmonious universal rhythm, and feel the peacefulness. This is the tremendous power the Gardens hold for us.

Joyce thanked the Melbourne Garden Club for hosting the meeting today, later acknowledging the provision of the brown bag lunches. It was noted that drinks provided were not able to be refrigerated because the refrigerator was gone from the kitchen area.

Kathryn Merry introduced Dr. Kimberly Moore, who joined us via Zoom from Fort Lauderdale. She teaches about plant nutrition and is the Associate Center Director of the University of Florida IFAS, Fort Lauderdale Research and Education Center. Her entertaining and educational program was entitled "So You Want to be a Plant Doctor."

Board Members present:

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

Secretary's Report: The Minutes of the October meeting were distributed and revised. The minutes of the September Board and October General meetings will be posted on the SBGCA.org website as soon as the files can be uploaded.

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of end of October is \$1634.29. It includes \$66 of income from October donations for plants and the raffle.

Roll Call of the Garden Clubs:

Beach Gardeners of Melbourne Beach - 2 members attending. Joyce Barton, President, reported:

- At their first meeting in October, they heard a presentation about Sea Turtles by Sarah Rhodes of the Barrier Island Sanctuary.
- The meeting was a hybrid in-person and Zoom.
- The Town of Melbourne Beach is continuing work on the Bi-Centennial Park by installing more plants and making it more accessible.
- At a recent event, the GC had a table for a couple of hours and realized \$190 income from plant sales and donations.
- Currently they have 24 members and are working on a member booklet.

Garden Club by the Sea – 5 members attending. – Valerie Karas, President. Charlotte Underwood reported:

- At their October meeting, the presentation was by Valerie's sister, who talked about the Dark Skies Initiative to reduce light pollution. She joined them via Zoom from Arizona.
- Their next program will be about Holiday Table Scapes by Christe Brown.
- On Veterans' Day, the Blue Star Marker at Lily Park will be dedicated in a ceremony at 3 PM, during which names of those who have served or are serving in the armed forces will be read.
- A sign-up sheet was passed around so we could submit names to be read at that time.

Indian Harbor Beach Garden Club - 4 members attending – Robin Chang, President, reported:

- The presentation at their October meeting was by Kristen Swayze of LKC Honey. She brought a live beehive to the meeting for the talk.
- The topic at their next meeting will be Atlantic Right Whales by the Marine Resource Center.

Island Garden Club - 1 member attending – Julia Hill, President. Kathryn Merry reported:

- The first meeting involved members talking and planning for the future.
- Kathryn will provide a program about propagation at their next meeting.

Melbourne Garden Club - 6 members attending – Sandi Dix, President, reported:

- The November meeting will include a presentation by the Marine Resource Center about the programs available there.
- The Christmas meeting plans are to be determined.
- The Blue Star Marker dedication will be scheduled for the spring.
- Kathryn will be holding a succulents workshop at her home at 9 AM on November 11.

Port Malabar Garden Club - 6 members attending – Becky Savage, President, reported:

- October was the first in-person meeting, which 14 attended. No refreshments were provided. In lieu of a program the focus was enabling members to catch up with each other.
- The Christmas Luncheon will be at the Yellow Dog.

- The Club took a board trip with Good Natured River Tours from the dock beside Grills on US1. The fee was very reasonable and included a \$5 coupon for Grills.
- The Club now has a business card with a QR (Quick Reference) code that takes on to the Facebook page.
- Plans for full scheduled meetings including light refreshments are being made for 2022

Meeting participants in today's meeting including the Board & Guests: 22

Committee Reports

Sunshine Report – Harriet Mirsajadi is the new Chairman. Anyone who knows of a person who needs a get well or condolence card should send a request to Harriet at harriet32934@yahoo.com.

Plant Sale – Marcie reported that plants were still available for a donation.

Door Prize Drawing – The mum Charlotte brought was won by Kathryn Merry.

Old Business:

- It was agreed that the **Holiday auction and luncheon will be held**. SBGCA and the Board members will provide all refreshments. Covid protocols will be determined and announced.
- The need for the SBGCA Website was quickly determined in that two of the recent members who joined found their club through the website and they do not have Facebook. Joyce announced that she will conduct one-on-one sessions with the representatives from each club to get their pages up and running.

No New Business.

Announcements:

- Kathryn Merry asked members not to discard nursery pots. She offered to take any that they bring. She cleans them up and then has them available for anyone who needs them.
- Floridana Tropicals, located at 6630 Floridana Ave, Melbourne Beach is having a sale on November 6 from 8 am - 2 pm. According to an email they sent Kathryn, Natives are \$4 for 1 gal, \$8 for 3 gal, \$15 for 7 gal. Tropical plants start at \$5.
- The Conradina Chapter of the Native Plant Society will be meeting Monday, 11/8 at 6:00 (doors open at 5:30 for socializing) at which Sally Scalera will talk about Keystone species that every Brevard yard should have to support native wildlife.
- Elfrieda Tullar, Indian Harbor Beach GC, announced that Walmart is selling in-humane glue traps for snakes and other critters. Any animal that gets trapped in that manner dies slowly and is unable to defend itself against predators. The photo on the snake trap was of a corn snake, a harmless native snake. She is writing a letter to management about the unacceptable practice and has seen positive results from other letter writing she has done in the past.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.