



SOUTH BREVARD GARDEN CLUB ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: May 1, 2023

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 10:03 am who then led the group in the pledge to the American flag.

Lisa Robinson gave an inspirational reading: Spring is a beautiful time of year. It's full of new beginnings. A time of friends, new and lasting, of fellowships, and of regrowth and careful planting for the present time and the time ahead. We are thankful for the kindness of our friends through sharing the beauty of their gardens and secrets of their trials and successes. They bring us beauty and positive energy. As our dear friend Carol Burnett said..."I'm so glad we've had this time together."

Joyce thanked Island GC for hosting the meeting. The presenter was Ben Thatcher who gave an informative talk about Gardening Permaculture, repeating several times the importance of hardwood mulch!

Board Members present include:

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

The revised **minutes** of the April General Meeting was posted on the SBGCA.org website and a copy of the minutes were available here for anyone to review.

Treasurer's Report:

- April 1 Balance \$2009.67; \$202 was received during the month for door prize, plant table and web support payments. There were no disbursements; therefore the balance at the end of the month was \$2211.67.
- Totaling \$372 are three checks outstanding; two to Julia for the web and domain payments, and one to Melbourne Library for our donation. Two checks are to be deposited totaling \$84 for web support payment. Those equal \$288.
- After subtracting the \$288 and the TD Minimum Balance of \$1500, the available balance for additional transactions is \$423.67.
- Each of the \$42 payments from the six clubs have been received this year.

Roll Call of the Garden Clubs:

Beach Gardeners of Melbourne Beach (1 member present) Joyce Barton, President, reported:

- Beach Gardeners decided at their last meeting that they will disband. A core that constructs the bookmarks will likely continue to meet to do that work.
- **It was noted that with five clubs remaining, the payment for the web support will increase from \$42 to \$50. Each club should budget this in their upcoming year budget.**

Garden Club by the Sea (3 present of 45 members) – Valerie Karas, President. Charlotte Underwood reported:

- On April 19 the speaker was Lindsay Mayer, Outreach Manager for the Florida Wildlife Hospital who brought two ambassador owls. It was a phenomenal presentation.
- May 17 will be the end of year luncheon at Yellow Dog Café, where the new board will be presented.
- Everyone was asked to put March 3, 2024 on their calendar to attend the Pollinator Fair.

Indian Harbor Beach Garden Club (4 present of 74 members) – Suzi Hodge, President. Jane Mandeville reported:

- Their April speaker was Joe West, who gave an entertaining talk about Monarch Butterflies and brought butterfly friendly plants to sell.
- Their business meeting included electing new officers for the 2023-2025 term.
- Their May meeting will be held at Suntree Country Club to install the new officers so there won't be a speaker.
- IHB offered to Host the SBGCA October meeting on their own. They invited Beach Gardeners to participate.

Island Garden Club (6 member present) – Julia Hill, President reported:

- The April meeting was a tour of several members gardens and there was a short meeting at the home of one of the members. The gardens included those of Nichole Perna and Jan Schaffer. Lunch at Skewers followed.
- On May 10 they will install officers and have a box lunch in Beth Glover's garden.

Melbourne Garden Club (6 present of 33 members) – Lydia Barbour, President. reported:

- Our April program was about African Violets and the following Tuesday we held a workshop at a member's home to plant succulents in various frames.
- Rather than having a business meeting in May, 26 of our 33 members will be gathering at Red Ginger for a luncheon.
- We have agreed with Port Malabar to co-host the February SBGCA meeting.

Port Malabar Garden Club (2 present of 36 members) – Becky Savage, President, reported:

- The April speaker was a PMGC member, Trish Ribadeneyra, who demonstrated how and when to repot an orchid. She has an actual orchid house with a watering system.
- The April trip was to the Brevard Zoo and they had a great time.
- May 14 meeting will be our final a luncheon at the Kiwi Tennis Club.
- Maintenance continues at the Turkey Creek Sanctuary garden at the welcome sign.
- There are 2 neighborhood drop-off/pick-up plants installed last year in Palm Bay. You have to be careful because they don't always recognize invasives.
- Fund raiser next year may be a garden tour.

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

Committee Reports

Sunshine Report – no report

Plant Sale Report – Kathryn encourages members to donate plants with identification ...no invasives please!

Door Prize Drawing – Charlotte, drawings were held for two plants.

Old Business:

◆ At the April meeting The Club agreed to change the meeting schedule to four meetings each year. There will be three meetings that 2 clubs would co-host: October, February and April or May. And one meeting in December would be the SBGCA fundraiser, hosted by SBGCA. Final decisions made were:

- ◆ October will be hosted solely by Indican Harbour Beach
 - ◆ December will be a pot luck and will be the auction
 - ◆ February will be hosted by Port Malabar and Melbourne
 - ◆ April will be hosted by Island and GC by the Sea
 - ◆ May will alternate between the new officer installation and a garden tour
- ◆ Julia will provide analytics regarding web searches for inclusion in the minutes.

New Business:

◆ Before the officer installation could be held Lydia made a motion to suspend Article 5 which said that the President could not serve more than two consecutive terms. Bernice seconded the motion and the favorable vote was unanimous.

◆ Lydia proceeded to install the new officers:

- President – Joyce Barton
- Vice President – Carol Nicholson
- Treasurer – Robin Chang
- Recording Secretary – Joanne Bertone

Announcements:

SBGCA next meeting will be in October 2023. Details will follow as plans for the new year are made.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch at 11:46 am
