

The Garden Club of St. Louis  
Board Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2019

Attending: Nancy Ross, Kathleen Rogers, Lisa Trulaske, Jack Holmes, Alden Pflager, Liza Weiss, Tracy Chivetta, Suzanne Johnson, Tricia Schlafly, Meredith Holbrook, Conchita Stuhl, Beth Niesen, Carrie Polk, Alex McNett, Nancy Ylvisaker, Diane Wyse Jackson, Liza Weiss, Susan Werner, Ulrike Schlafly, Mary Morgan, Liza Thornhill, Lizzy Rickard, Becky Smith

Treasury Report: Conchita and Beth

- First meeting in September was under budget, wrapping up books on zone meeting so far under budget this year.
- 11 people left to pay dues, much better than in past years.

Programs: Meredith Holbrook

- Nov 19<sup>th</sup> workshop at Jack Holmes at 9am, there was room for 25, 15 have signed up so far, thinking of opening spots to Ladue Garden Club. Bring check for \$50 and dull butcher knife there will be a light breakfast. Evening program top 10 things to know about peonies, very interactive, Katherine will be selling peony roots. Please check her website for availability and let her know if there is something you would like her to bring.
- Jan 15<sup>th</sup> farm to table cooking demo at Old Warson with Elizabeth Heiskell.
- February program will be Doug Ladd Director of Conservation for The Nature Conservancy. He is a great speaker and passionate about conservation, also the recipient of conservation commendation at the zone meeting.

Christmas Lunch and Photography: Carrie Polk

- Annual Christmas Lunch held on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> at Deer Creek Club. Provisionals creating centerpieces on the 9<sup>th</sup>. Valet parking at lunch and invitations to go out shortly.
- Building on last year's Ott's pots there will be a pop up boutique at lunch, aiming for 4 to 6 items for sale. Working on how to handle sale on Square.
- Photography committee taking a breather after zone meeting, in January will announce unjudged show planned for April.
- Enter pictures to GCA for the cover of the GCA Winter Bulletin, deadline to enter is Nov 15<sup>th</sup>.

Floral Committee: Jack Holmes

- Art in Bloom deadline to enter is Nov 30<sup>th</sup>. Jack was nice enough to enter for the club this year, would like to groom someone for next year. We will find out Dec 9<sup>th</sup> if club is chosen. Thank you to Jack for doing the hard work!

Horticulture: Alex McNett

- Big thank you to Linda for hosting the bulb planting workshop at her house. Event had great attendance and everyone had a lot of fun.
- Next event is in January still planning on wine and seed balls.

Conservation: Nancy Ylvisaker

- Thank you to all who came to Rodes Park for the bulb planting. Special thanks to Mary Morgan and Jason Delaney for all their work.
- Honeysuckle Hack morning of November 16<sup>th</sup> at Edie's Mulch Site with the Ladue GC and City of Ladue.

- Conservation is very focused on Edie's right now, benefits of Edie's for the community and conservation efforts.
- Thank you to Nancy for the wonderful talk on Climate Change. Nancy is working with the non-profit C-Change and is available to speak on climate change.

#### Scholarship: Nancy Ross for Mary Hayward

- Mary is meeting with the Harris World Ecology Center, they have some good candidates for possible scholarship candidates.

#### Roster: Alden Pflager and Liza Weiss

- Alden – Paper Roster is labor intensive and the update process right now is inefficient, also paper is wasteful and as a garden club we are supposed to be leaders of change and conservation. Possibility of skipping this year and going online, would cost \$1800 to print.
- Nancy Ylvisaker noted that national clubs do not print anything, all online.
- Lots of discussion/debate on choices going forward – give people choice of paper or online, possibly print for those that request paper, Beth suggested option on future bills for the charge to print to be included with annual membership.
- All info is on our website and bios are on GCA website but realize that not all members are comfortable going online. Provisionals should get print roster upon joining.
- Discussion of what to do this year, print roster, go completely online or possibly print provisional pages and executive committee pages as insert to members as compromise. All other changes addresses phone numbers etc. to be made online.
- Vote was taken – 6 voted not to print this year to go completely online, 6 voted for inserts.
- Everyone in agreement that online is the future, may not be popular but the better thing to do for conservation.

#### Virginia Trip: Nancy Ross for Mark Critchfield

- Mark is working with Polly Bade and trip is beginning to take shape. Dates are April 23 - 26, hotels have been chosen they are working on the gardens.
- 18 to 20 people first come first serve, will fill up quickly lots of interest on Grapevine.
- Looking for anyone with Virginia garden connections.

#### Second Century Campaign

- National campaign to raise money to keep GCA strong for next century ending in December. Campaign to raise funds for grants, education, conservation etc.
- Club to possibly make a contribution the Presidents made recommendation for \$2500 to go to campaign as well as a letter to individual members if they would like to give on their own.
- Ulrike Schlafly was recently featured in GCA Magazine for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century Campaign discussed how important the campaign was to the club and its members as well as to the legacy of the club.
- Conchita was comfortable with \$2500, Ulrike asked about the savings of the club after the zone meeting, they are working on financial report of club would be made available once complete. Not comfortable giving away a lot of money without club approval.
- Formal motion made by Jack for vote, seconded by Nancy Ylvisaker and vote passed.

Revised minutes from the October 10, 2019 meeting were approved.

#### Community Project and Fund Raising Ideas Discussion

- Looking for possible fundraising ideas for a possible fall 2020 project.
- Discussed a special meeting at a later date to discuss further.

- Past fundraisers such as the Serendipitous Supper, the sale of Garden Club Pins, and individual contributions have been sources of fundraising the past few years.

Submitted by Mokie Carmichael