

MINUTES
Lakeside Garden Guild
General Members' Meeting: February 15, 2024
Home of Bonnie Newman

Call to Order:

President Newman called the meeting to order at 11:01 am.

President's Comments: President Newman announced that Joyce McNiven has resigned after 19 years as an active member and leader. Joyce is the sole health caregiver and driver for her husband.

Bonnie announced that the Guild has an equipment inventory including 3 wooden pedestals, 3 large coffee pots and a sound system. She welcomed the 2024 Board members and asked when our 50-year anniversary was celebrated as a Guild. Bonnie will check with Sharon Smith, but members believe it was 2019.

Recording Secretary: Jan Quarton called the roll in the absence of Jan Alswager.

Present: Carmen Bentioglio, Justine Bertram, Mary Bragg, Kenée Campo, Janet Capetillo, Vickie Christensen, Susan Cole Bainbridge, Beth Fluke, Celina Haramis, Carrie Hemphill, Kari Higgins, Lucille Johnstone, Janine Kirkland, Jo Lapinski, Di Anne Maczko, Alicia Merrell, Bonnie Newman, Jan Quarton, Margaret Quinn, Linda Rudisell-Hines, Cathy Sheehan, Linda Williams, Sue Williams, and Allegra Willis.

Zoom attendees: None

Present at the meeting were 23 regular members; 5 members were absent. There were 2 prospective members (Norma Hall & Daphine). Margaret Quinn and Beth Fluke brought out-of-town friends as guests.

Minutes: Minutes were not called on to be approved.

Upcoming Birthdays: Not covered at meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Janine Kirkland presented the Treasurer's year-end report for 2023.

Income for 2023

Interest from General Account	8,701.09
Interest from Graffiti Account	255.92
Membership Dues (31 x 300)	9,300.00
Flower show	107,875.00
Total Income for 2023	126,132.01

Expenses for 2023

Membership	3,176.00
Misc.	1,000.00
Sunshine Committee.....	2,265.00
Website	2,468.10
Meeting/Program	1,390.00
Community Project	25,000.00
Total Expenses for 2023	35,299.10

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Di Anne Maczko

Bonnie called on Kari Higgins who wished to say a few words. Kari made a tearful and lovely tribute to her time with the Guild and announced her resignation as a Guild member. This brings our membership total to 28. Di Anne encouraged members to recruit additional prospective members.

An idea was presented about hosting a lunch for former GG members or inviting past members still in the area to lunch after each meeting. Mary Bragg offered to organize an invitation to past members to our Christmas luncheon this year.

Webmaster: Linda Rudisell-Hines & Carrie Hemphill. It was reported that Carrie has posted a 4-minute video on the website of the 2023 Flower Show.

Publicity: Linda Rudisell-Hines & Carrie Hemphill
These was nothing to report.

Programs: Linda Williams. Linda reported all months have been filled for programs except July and September. She is looking for someone to present information related to ecology.

Hospitality: Beth Fluke & Vickie Christensen

Today's meeting was hosted today by Bonnie Newman.

Beth reported that Justine provided the fruit and Carrie the baked goods.

Lunch after the meeting was at La Paceaña.

Only a few slots remain for co-hosting meetings by bringing fruit, pastries, or flowers. Members are encouraged to sign up to fill these slots.

The next meeting was scheduled at the home of Jan Alswager. Susan Bainbridge announced that an idea is being considered to hold the March meeting at the site of our potential 2024 venue for the flower show. Since the meeting, the decision was made to move the March meeting location to the home of Sue Williams.

Community Project: Cathy Sheehan & Justine Bertram are planning to meet with municipality leaders to discuss making the Ajijic Malecon bridge a more permanent structure. Discussion among members followed.

Sunshine: Lucille Johnstone called on Alicia to explain Leslie Martin's fall resulting in a break above her knee that recently had surgery. Leslie needs to stay off her feet for four more weeks. Members were encouraged to call or email Leslie. Merelyn Shore recently had cataract surgery. Liz Durham currently has Covid. Bonnie asked members to keep Twig and her husband in their thoughts as they meet with oncologists.

Floral Design Show: Susan Cole-Bainbridge & Di Anne Maczko

The date of this year's floral design show is Saturday November 16, 2024. This is one weekend after the Feria. The theme of "Festival of Flowers" is open to imagination and design ideas. The cochairs are firming up a proposed venue, a huge property above Calle de Revolucion. They are hoping members will be able to see the property soon to help with planning their designs.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

Beth Fluke invited members to visit her home in Kennebunkport, Maine September 9-16. If interested, contact Beth.

Kenée Campo announced that the Recycling Center is very grateful for our contribution. The Guild encourages them to use some of our donation to improve signage from the Carretera. There was discussion about ways to involve restaurants with recycling efforts.

Mary Bragg was asked by Steve Balfour of the Lake Chapala Society to approach the Guild to help with changing flowering plants in an area of the LCS garden. Because this is beyond our mission and no interest was shown in making this a GG community project, Mary will inform Steve that other gardening groups might be in a better position to assist, or an appeal to the LCS membership for volunteers to help might solve his problem.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

For the program following the meeting, members had worked in teams to plan table settings and table floral decorations. The displays were set up and discussed. Each one was an outstanding display of the talent within our Guild. Linda Williams made excellent pointers about the basic requirements for a dinner table centerpiece and kept the program running smoothly.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Quarton for Jan Alswager
Recording Secretary