

FLORAL CITY GARDEN CLUB

January 9, 2004

Minutes

The January meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by President JoAnn Quackenbush, who then gave the invocation in the absence of chaplain, Mary Lu Sloop, led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the club collect. The President acknowledged the hostesses and greeters: Lynn Bassett, Nancy Mirgon, Diane Dowthitt, Kathy Hofmann, Alice Reed and Bobbie Schoss. Vice-President Debbie Barney welcomed Colleen Coleman, daughter of member Faith Coleman, who was the only guest.

December meeting minutes were distributed by e-mail and extra copies were available for review prior to the meeting. There were no corrections and the minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's report was given by Kathy Hofmann (see attached). Income during the month of December was \$159.75 and disbursements were \$400.50. Ending balance: \$6656.20 (Statement attached)

Correspondence received by the President was reported.

- Acknowledgment for \$250 donation to Camp E-Nini-Hassee from Susan Senger, Director of Development at Eckerd Youth Alternatives
- Thank you from Friends of the Garden Club for \$200 donation
- Invitation from Riverhaven GC for members to attend "Antiques, Brie and Thee" on February 20 from 3-7 p.m.
- Note from Barbara Milliken advising that she is changing to inactive status because she and husband plan to build a new home this coming year.
- Note from Gloria Uhl resigning as Horticulture Chairman and photographer
- Note from Shirley Granneman resigning membership due to her husband's illness.
- Request for donation from Eckerd Youth Alternative Camp E-Nini-Hassee
- Request for donation from Promotions Chairman of Camp Wekiva

Officers Reports

The President reported:

- pages from the President's Kit have been routed to appropriate chairmen and copies are available to anyone interested.
- there are numerous educational opportunities through FFGC which are available to members
- due to numerous requests and suggestions for donations a list of all requests will be provided to the membership at the next meeting for the purpose of member input by means of priority numbering.
- the Board decided to forego the annual plant sale this year because of the volunteer work that is needed for hosting the District meeting in April. Members are still requested to nurture homegrown plants for the District meeting sales.

Standing Committee Reports

Awards: Chairman Thelma Noble reported that applications have been submitted for two awards, one each for the clubs' participation in the Gateway Sign garden and the Freedom Tree event last January.

Birds & Butterflies: Chairman Cathy Foley announced that a new birdbath was purchased.

Civic & Community Development: The president reported for Chairman Dave Noble.

Consideration of the request by "Missy's Health Nook" and "Sparacino's Produce" to help create gardens in front of these businesses has been tabled at this time as the property is up for sale.

Helping Hands: Chairman Debbie Barney asked that members volunteer to take a prepared meal to the Bellman's as Pam has a broken arm. Any member who has boxes suitable for packing for moving, please let Debbie know.

Memorial Gardens: Chairman Kathy Hofmann reported that she is looking into cost of repair and/or replacement of benches. Also, new septic system at the Masonic Temple resulted in destruction of some plants, but we will not do any replacements until spring.

Ways & Means: Chairman Bobbie Schoss reported that FFGC calendars were not ordered this year and asked if anyone wanted them to be ordered at this point. There were no requests. She also called attention to the "Good Bugs, Bad Bugs" field guide available for fifty cents.

Horticulture: Lynn Bassett, who has assumed co-chairmanship of this committee since Gloria Uhl's resignation, reported. January guides were available and the Tampa Bay Flower Show Expo in Pinellas County scheduled for January 22 - 25 was announced.

Special Committee Reports

Downtown Decorations Committee: Carol Hart reported for this committee. An electric company has been contacted regarding the possibility of sponsorship of lighted decorations. The committee is recommending focus on lights for the commercial area specifically the gazebo, the fence bordering the trail and some of the trees in that area.

Unfinished Old Business

The Board discussed the suggestion to solicit/accept advertisements for the yearbook and decided to do this on a donation basis for the yearbook updates which will be published in August. Members may advertise or contact businesses who might be interested. Copy should go to Jo Ann and donation to Kathy Hofmann.

The suggestion made last month to purchase a pricing gun was recommended by the board. A motion was made and passed.

Cathi Ayers asked that members who have items appropriate for the ten FFGC convention door prizes we are to donate and/or for the raffle item, which must be valued at \$35 or more, please contact her. She also asked for a motion that she be permitted to spend an average of \$5 per door prize for any remaining door prizes we don't receive as donations. A motion was made and passed.

New Business

Friends of the Garden Club have requested that the Garden Club assume responsibility for maintenance of the rose garden they planted adjacent to the trail across from the Butterfly Garden some time ago. Illness and physical limitations are making it difficult for them to maintain. Thelma Noble and Diane Dowthitt volunteered.

Suggestions to publish a periodic newsletter and to establish some form of classified advertising for members were presented. Cathi Ayers volunteered to do a trial newsletter if others will assist and Diane Dowthitt agreed to set up a classified advertising format for e-mail.

Awards

Shirley McAllen chose to present the Petal Power Award to Carol Hart.

The President's Award was acknowledgment of all members who helped with Heritage Days and with "un-decorating" downtown.

Announcements

Members were asked to save decorative tissue boxes for Marie Jones who is using them to make table favors for the District meeting.

Members were directed to check the Florida Gardener for numerous events and educational opportunities.

The annual membership survey of suggestions and ideas will be created and distributed early this year to give everyone time to complete and return before May. Members who have questions they would like to be included on the survey should get them to Jo Ann.

A District V host planning committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Marie Jones.

Adjournment and Program

The business meeting was adjourned and Program Chairman Debbie Barney introduced Jane Weber, owner of a native plant nursery Citrus Springs, who gave an informative and interesting presentation on the Coontie.

Respectfully submitted,