

Florida Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc.
Winter Board of Directors Meeting
FFGC Headquarters, Winter Park
January 10th & 11th, 2024
Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

The regular Winter Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Florida Federation Garden Clubs, Inc. was called to order at 12:31 p.m., January 10th, 2024, by President Tina Tuttle. President Tuttle extended a welcome to all who were present.

Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Pat Strawn delivered an Invocation, an inspirational Poem about the beginning of a new year, and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

The Chair declared that a Quorum was present.

Regular Business in Order:

Appointment of Committees:

The chair named the following committees that were appointed with no objections.

Committee to Approve the Minutes - Mary Adams - chairman, Mona Johnston & Kathy Siena

Timekeeper - Inger Jones

Introductions:

Members who serve on NGC Board of Directors and/or the Board of Directors of Deep South Garden Clubs were recognized and thanked for their service.

The Chair gave a special recognition to Former NGC President Barbara May.

FFGC Officers were recognized Leticia Delatorre-Gunn (3rd Vice President), Mary Whisler (2nd Vice President), Christy Linke - (1st Vice President), Jennifer Barber (Recording Secretary), Linda Feifarek-Johnson who is home ill, (Corresponding Secretary), Carolyn Lowry-Nation (Parliamentarian), Jana Walling (Treasurer), and Sue Roberts, H& E Chairman is also a member of the Executive Board and Tina Tuttle (President).

Report of the Committee to Approve the Minutes of the Fall Meeting of the Board of Directors:

Jolene King reported that the Minutes were approved.

Reports of Officers:

- The officer's reports will be posted together with District Director Reports and Committee Chairman reports on the FFGC website under the Documents Tab.

President - Tina Tuttle

President Tuttle gave her report which consisted of the results of the survey that was sent out to the membership this fall. The majority of the focus of the results that were discussed was who took the survey, what we are doing well as an organization, and areas of opportunity as an organization.

Treasurer - Jana Walling

Jana reviewed the following budgets: Budget vs. Actuals for Wekiva Youth Camp 2023, Budget vs. Actual of Headquarters & Endowment, Budget vs Actual General Operations, SEEK & Total, and Statement of Financial Position. These budgets were sent to all members of the Board of Directors for review before the meeting via email.

Jana also reviewed and discussed the form that was making its way around the room regarding the record of volunteer hours by members of the Board of Directors.

Resignations & Appointments:

Jane Nendick as National Garden Week Chairman - Resignation

Blanca Longo Rancourt as National Garden Week Chairman - Appointment

Bonny Miller Cole as District XI Director - Resignation

Taryn Palo was appointed District XI Director - Appointment

Claudia Chopp as District IX Director - Resignation

Susan Lawson has been appointed District IX Director - Appointment

Kelley Wood as Insurance Chairman - Resignation

Michele Vatalaro as Insurance Chairman - Appointment

Daphna Goldberg as Deep South Special Projects - Appointment

Hearing no objections - the appointments were approved.

The resignations were accepted with regret.

Special Order:

The election of members of the Nominating Committee for Members of the Headquarters and Endowment Trustees.

The Chairman has appointed Inger Jones as Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Brenda Luedeman and Margaret Chodosh were nominated to serve for the two open positions.

Brenda Luedeman and Margaret Chodosh were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee for the H & E Trustees by a unanimous vote.

Election of Delegates and Alternates to the National Garden Clubs 2024 Convention:

Christy Linke and Rosita Arnoff were nominated and elected to serve as delegates of FFGC at the National Garden Clubs Convention in Denver, CO June 2-5th, 2024 by a unanimous vote.

Election of Delegates and Alternates to the Deep South Garden Clubs Convention:

Susan Meyer, Carol Stevens, and Lynn Pedigo were nominated and elected to serve as delegates of FFGC at the Deep South Garden Clubs Convention in Gatlinburg, TN March 19-20, 2024 by a unanimous vote.

Standing Committees:

H&E & Grounds - Sue Roberts reported.

There will be two upcoming work days for some grounds planting: *February 10th & March 23rd at 9 am.*

Finance Committee - Christy Linke reported

The By-laws Committee - Marge Hendon reported

Marge Hendon brought forth motions that were approved in committee.

Motion: Adding a section to Standing Rule #16 C:

c. Clubs that lapse for nonpayment of dues for a period of more than one year will lose their longevity status

Insert - unless a written request for extension due to extenuating circumstances is made to their District Director.

The motion was Unanimously approved.

Motion: Article X Section 4 - Change the numbers needed for a Quorum
Currently states: Fifty members shall constitute a quorum.

Proposed change: More than 50 percent of the members of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum.

The motion was Unanimously approved.

Motion: Article XX Publications, Section 1 - Removal of 2 publications that are no longer regularly produced.

Currently states: c. FFGC Calendar; and d. Florida Garden Club Manual

Proposed change would delete c. FFGC Calendar and d. Florida Garden Club Manual.

The Motion passed with 52 Ayes, 1 Nay, and 1 Abstain.

Motion: Article III Members, Section 2. Non-Voting Membership - Change how the Affiliates Program applications are submitted and accepted.

Currently States: Application for such membership shall be submitted to the Board of Directors.

Proposed Change: Application for such membership shall be submitted to the Affiliates Chairman.

Currently States: A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board of Directors shall elect.

Proposed Change: A majority vote of the Executive Committee shall elect.

The Motion passed unanimously.

Membership - Christy Linke Reported

Camp Wekiva - Mary Whisler Reported

3rd VP - Leticia Delatorre-Gunn Reported

Affiliates Membership - Donna Berger brought a motion

Motion: To accept the following as FFGC Affiliates: Creative Floral Arrangers of America-CFAA, Fort Myers Lee County Garden Council, North Florida Daylily Society, Inc., Conradina Chapter - Florida Native Plant Society, Tri-Council of FFGC.

The motion passed unanimously.

District Director Reports:

District IX - Susan Lawson

District X - Maria Wolfe

District XI - Taryn Palo

District XII- Susan Rodriguez - read by Jennifer Barber

Awards Chair - Sandra Arnold reported

Tri-Council Liaison and Paths of Sunshine - Brenda Luedeman reported

Florida Flower Show Judges Liaison - Gina Jogan reported

2024 Biennial State Flower Show - Gina Jogan reported

Strategic Planning - Connie Gladding reported

3rd VP Leticia Delatorre Gunn brought a motion to the floor.

Motion: To make Gardens of the World a member of FFGC.

Gardens of the World is an online Garden Club.

The motion passed unanimously.

District Director Reports:

District IV - Sam Runyon

District V - Carol Stevens

District VI - Valerie Seinfeld

Scholarships - Helen Purvis reported

DS & NGC Scholarships - Mary Adams reported

District Director Reports:

District VII - Gwen Carter

Gwen Carter made a motion to *accept the resignation of Palm Garden Club*

The motion was accepted with regrets.

District VIII - Phyllis Weber - read by Jennifer Barber

Matching Grants - Helen Purvis reported- extended deadline to receive grants from 15 January to 31 January and extended the deadline for report of project completion.

Grants to be received in February instead of at convention.

Hall of Fame, Life Memberships & Pillar of Pride - Skip & Diane Lamoureux reported

10/\$2700- Life Members, 10/\$1000 - Pillar of Pride 4/\$400 - Hall of Fame

Trees & Reforestation - Kat Spieker - read by Jennifer Barber

Before the meeting was recessed, Tina Tuttle reminded us of basic Hotel Etiquette!

Meeting Recessed at 4:44 in preparation for the Tri-Council sponsored dinner and speaker.

Meeting Resumed Thursday, January 11th at 9:31 am.

Convention 2024 - Jenny Weber reported

Convention Registration is now open. Hotel Registration is now open. There were a few kinks but all is working as it should now. More information about the Convention is available online at www.ffgc.org/Convention

District Director Reports:

District I - Jenny Weber

District II - Sue Meyer

District III - Assistant DD Gail Hill

Arbor Day - Lynn Artz reported

Floral Design Study - Jan Griffin brought forth a motion for instructors to be paid "up to \$150 per session. Motion passed unanimously.

Florida Wildflower Foundation liaison - Carolyn Schaag reported

Short Course North - Joanne Connor reported.
Dates will be 8-9 August 2024 in Milton, FL

Robin Hayes, Office Manager for FFGC Headquarters, was asked to join us so that we could give her a round of applause and Thank you to show our appreciation for all of her hard work.

Announcements: *a terrible way to die - hegl*

*January 19th is ARBOR DAY! Don't forget to take pictures and send publicity to Lynn Artz.

*Our next Board of Directors meeting will be at the Convention, April 10-12th in Jacksonville at the SouthBank Hotel by Marriott. Our Pre-Convention meeting is Wednesday, April 10th at 3 pm.

*All Board of Directors are invited to the Early Arrival Dinner on Wednesday, April 10th. Please RSVP by March 15th to Linda Feifarek-Johnson.

- Condolences - Suzy Valentine passed away September 7th.

- Condolences - Judi Jodoin's husband, Richard died September 18th.

*January 2025 BOD Cruise - January 6th -11th If you are interested in joining us you need to put down your \$100 deposit. Contact Shelley Atkinson at satkinson@funseas.com or visit our website at www.ffgc.org/travel

*Tickets for the 100th Anniversary Brunch and Dinner are on sale now. Dinner is \$100 and is limited to 75 attendees. Brunch is \$50 and is limited to 300 attendees. The events will be on Wednesday, April 24th, 2024 at FFGC Headquarters in Winter Park. Brunch is from 10:30 - 12:00. Dinner is from 6:00-9:00. Contact Judy Jodoin @ jodoins@juno.com to purchase tickets today.

*We have a large number of Membership Flyers (Spanish and English), old Calendars, and Florida Gardener magazines available for free for clubs and individuals to use for Floral Design and/or membership recruitment. - Please contact Robin Hayes at headquarters for more information.

* Smokey Bear posters **only** this year for his 80th birthday.... no Woodsy Owl posters. Posters are Due January 20th.

Benediction: A benediction was delivered by Pat Strawn along with an inspirational poem.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:34

Respectfully Submitted:

Jennifer Barber

Jennifer Barber, Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Mary Adams

Mary Adams, Chairman, District VII

Mona Johnston

Mona Johnston, District XI

Kathy Siena

Kathy Siena, District X