

**NAPLES GARDEN CLUB
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

President Sandy Lasch called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.. Sandy welcomed members and guests. She mentioned that this time of year was exciting for our Club because we have just completed our very successful House & Garden Tour. The Flower Show is fast approaching on March 24 and 25, 2017. She thanked all members for their support and volunteer efforts. Sandy reviewed the schedule for the day.

Polly Galliker presented the Invocation stressing the various meanings of “community “ and how they support our involvement in the Naples Garden Club.

Linda Brown, Historian for the Club, gave a brief history of our Flower Show including the fact that the upcoming Flower Show will be the 64th one in our history. Linda highlighted the past flower shows, their titles and their chairwomen.

The cyber drawing was conducted by Sudie Minamyier who presented a beautiful plant donated by Jackie and Mike Malloy to Susan Schreiber.

Business Meeting

President Lasch requested approval of the minutes of the January 9, 2017 meeting as posted on the website. Sudie Minamyier moved and Beverly Metcalf seconded the motion. By a voice vote, the minutes were approved.

President Lasch thanked the members for participating in the survey at last month’s meeting. The topic of the survey was the allocation of discretionary funds. President Lasch reported that one third of the members participated in the vote. The results showed that members ranked Programs first, Grants second and contributions to the Naples Botanical Garden third. An extensive review of the results will be sent to members via TROWeL PRINTS.

House & Garden Tour

Sharon Hildbrandt, Chair, thanked her committee and the over 200 volunteers whose efforts made the Tour a success. Participating members were asked to stand and received applause. Sharon commented on the popularity of the Tour with all tickets sold during the first few hours of availability, the over 800 positive comments received on the cards and the wonderful coverage of the event in the Naples Daily News and in a future Home & Design magazine.

Flower Show

Renee Lewis, liaison for Cinderella, explained that tickets for the Preview Party were now available online for \$45 per person. Most design classes will be on a blue background that was available in the rear or the auditorium for those interested in seeing the color. There is a need for more entries and additional volunteers. Horticulture will be displayed in the tent as where vendors will also be located. Floral designs and photography will be in the Kapnick Hall. In preparation for the Show, there will be several design and horticulture workshops. The schedule and opportunity to register are on the Garden Club website.

Educational Workshops and Trips

Susie Gascoigne, chair, mentioned the exciting and informative workshops being presented in the near future. The succulent workshop with Laura Eubanks on Tuesday, a workshop on petites by Sondra Quinn and a horticulture workshop led by Arlene Cluff and Liz Chehayl were highlighted. Upcoming trips to Fakahatchee Strand and Echo Global Farm are also available to members.

Membership

Membership chair, Diane Frisicaro, reminded members and potential members that attendance a Garden Club General Meeting this season was a prerequisite to membership next season. On-line applications will be available on February 15th and will close on March 15th at 5:00 p.m.

Program

Andrea Grace, Director of Adult Programs for the Naples Botanical Garden, introduced Laura Eubanks - the featured speaker. Laura had created eight succulent designs for the meeting using her moss and glue technique. The designs served as raffle prizes. Laura's entertaining and informative narrative produced smiles and laughter as she explained her process of working with plants. The event was being seen around the world on a live pod cast. Members participated by doing the wave as a finale.

Adjourn

President Lasch adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m., reminding members and guests who had purchased ticket to return for the awarding of the raffle prizes in 15 minutes. Attendees were invited to the patio for refreshments.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Duke
Secretary
DRAFT
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