



NAPLES GARDEN CLUB
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MARCH 6, 2017

President Sandy Lasch welcomed members and guests to the meeting. Sandy mention what an exciting time it is for our club with our successful House & Garden Tour complete and our Flower Show fast approaching March 24th and 25th. She thanked all those who helped with registration, raffle and logistics for today's meeting.

President Lasch reviewed the agenda items and called the meeting to order at 10:12am. Raynelle Perkins explained the safety exits to the gathering.

Chaplain, Dusti Beaubien, shared an inspirational poem and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Lasch mentioned that Dusti is a nominee for Woman of Initiative and is to be honored at a luncheon at the end of the month. Tickets are still available for this event.

President Lasch introduced Donna McGinnis, the new NBG President and CEO.

Donna shared her past experiences with other Botanical Gardens and talked about her warm welcome to her new position as head of the NBG. She emphasized the close working relationship that the Naples Garden Club and the Botanical Garden share. Donna also reviewed the contributions of Garden Club members and former NBG leaders such as Sondra Quinn. Finally, Donna invited members to seek her out with their ideas as to "What's next?" for the NBG.

Linda LaRue Brown, historian, shared the story of the beginning of the expansion of the NBG and the naming of the Idea Garden after Naples Garden Club.

Linda also mentioned that nominations were now being taken for the service award for this year. The nomination form may be filled out on line and needs to be completed by March 15, 2017.

Raynelle Perkins conducted the cyber drawing for a beautiful oil tree plant donated by Jackie and Mike Malloy. Carol LaCanfora was the lucky winner.

President Lasch began the business meeting by asking for a motion to approve the minutes from the general meeting on February 6, 2017.

Renee Lewis moved and Sharon Hildebrandt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The following committee chairs gave their reports:

Pat Fosberg, Hospitality Chair, thanked all members who participated in set-up, refreshments and strike for today's meeting.

President Lasch asked Sharon Hildebrandt to share the final report from the House & Garden Tour. Sharon stated that the Tour was successful due to the hard work of over 200 volunteers. Congratulations to all.

Renee Lewis, Flower Show Chair, reported that the Preview Party is Thursday, March 23th @ a cost of \$45 per person. The floral designs and photography exhibits are finalized. All designs will be by members of the club this year. Cinderella will appear with a gold coach large enough to accommodate photo opportunities for guests. Horticulture entries must follow the timetable listed in the schedule. For oversize containers please notify Lindsey Clark as soon as possible. Liz Chehayl shared two examples of cut specimens. Mary Pulick explained the tents and the drop off procedures. Entry cards may be obtained after the meeting today. Sandy mentioned that horticulture would be open to members of the public. For further questions, please contact Renee.

Susie Gascoigne, Education Chair, stated that this is the conclusion of a wonderful season of trips (recently Echo Global Gardens,) and workshops. There is a final workshop by Arlene Cluff on Water Gardening in Containers on March 30 @ 9:30am.

Membership Chair, Diane Friscaro, reported that to date there are 26 applications and 2 hold over provisionals for the class of 2017-2018. Applications are being accepted until March 15th.

Janet Donald, Assistant Treasurer, mentioned that dues are due at the month of March. For those who pay, there will be a drawing for a refund at the next General Meeting.

Program Chair, Raynelle Perkins, introduced speaker Claire Jones, who presented "Containers with Pizzazz."

President Lasch adjourned the meeting at 12:05pm.

Following the meeting, there was a drawing for four designs produced by Claire.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Duke
Secretary
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DRAFT