



Coastal Gardeners
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Millville By the Sea Clubhouse
02/17/2025

President Ruth Boggs commenced the meeting. The following agenda items were reviewed and discussed by those present (in person and on “zoom”): Ruth Boggs, Sandy Daniels, Linda Barbour, Sue Jordan, Renee Simons, Michele Crane, Cathy Veale.

1. 2025 Budget

- Sue distributed copies of the club’s 2024 expenses. Sue has taken up the task of organizing data for the budget as Mary K. is not able to at this time.
- Sue suggested that we probably won’t need to focus as much on fundraising this year since we currently have a balance of over \$7000 carried over from last year.
- Discussions regarding budget line items for this year include:
 - allocating more money for Vice President for program presenters
 - allocating more money for hospitality, for snacks and possibly holiday event
 - allocating money for Backpacks for kids, and to reimburse Cherie Farkosh for personal funds she used for the project
 - the money we raised in 2024 for OCC may be enough to fund the project in 2025.
 - Sandy noted that although we may not need a Sip & Shop fundraiser for OCC this year, several local businesses have approached her about participating in the fundraiser; our proceeds could go towards other club projects, including possibly a Blue Star Memorial.
 - allocating more money for Beebe pots, and also exploring the pricing at different local nurseries to save money
 - perhaps approaching Beebe about contributing to cost of the project
- Sue J. will update the budget with the changes and present for membership approval at the 3/17/25 meeting.

2. Bylaws, Standing Rules and Mission Statement

- Ruth suggested that there is a need to review existing bylaws, etc., potentially changing our mission statement to reflect our commitment to several non-garden related community service projects, while maintaining the core purpose of a garden club .
- Ruth proposed creating a task force for such a review, co-chaired by Ruth and Cathy Veale, with volunteers from the general membership.
- Any changes recommended by the task force would be voted on by membership in the coming months.

- Sandy offered to provide the task force with information regarding how to change our bylaws, etc.
- Linda made a motion to form such a task force, which was seconded; those present voted in favor.

3. Community Projects Survey

- 87% of our members submitted their responses; Bev Boies, Chris Coppa and Ruth reviewed and tabulated the results.
- Co-chairs of each project have received the data and will present project plans at the 3/17 meeting.
- The Center for the Inland Bays is no longer a project for our club.
- Other results of the survey which were discussed include:
 - members seemed favorable towards requiring participation in projects even if not on a given committee
 - members seemed favorable towards requiring participation in a certain number of project hours /meetings.
 - Those present at the meeting agreed that currently such tracking of participation does not take place, and would be difficult to implement.

4. DFGC

- Ruth reported that the members of the Executive Boards of all DE garden clubs have been asked to contribute \$10 towards a gift for the outgoing president of the DFGC. Those present agreed that a \$50 check from club funds will be sent to the DFGC to use towards this gift, rather than the Exec Boards individuals sending money to the individual who made this request.
- There is a DFGC meeting in Rehoboth on 4/16/25. Sandy offered to investigate whether our club needs to prepare anything for this meeting.

5. Additional Information

- Linda reported that Ruth and Jay Boggs kindly gave a monetary donation to our club, and that it would be appropriate to send them a Thank You card from Coastal Gardeners. The Hospitality Committee will do this, as they normally send thank you cards, etc.

At this point, Ruth adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Cathy Veale

