

Sand Lake Garden Club

Board Meeting Minutes for February 24, 2022

The meeting was called to order via Zoom by President Sally Perry at 5:35 PM.

Attendance: Sally Perry, Rose Dorr, Hollis McEvilly, Cathy Welling, Andy Mace, Russ Gettig, Anna Church; Absent Judy Kasianczuk, Guy Castine.

Secretary's Report:

Minutes for the meeting of January 27, 2022 were accepted as written and circulated to Board members prior to the meeting. Motion to accept by Cathy Welling, seconded by Hollis McEvilly.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Hollis McEvilly reported the February balance of the SLGC checking account as \$4,009.18.

Hollis also reported that the SLGC presently has 43 paid members and two new members, namely Alice Howard and Janice Fallon.

Board members, please note the following:

"Robert's Rules of Order (10th edition, page 459) states that **The chair may ask for a treasurers report, which may be as simple as balance on hand.** This report requires no action from the assembly. Budgets need to be voted on. As chair you may simply thank the treasurer and state that the report will be filed."

Unfinished Business:

Member Dues increase – resulted in a lively discussion which considered the history and possible need of a dues increase. Dues started at \$5, went to \$8 and finally \$10 where they have settled for quite some time. While present monies received are exceeding outflow, there is concern about keeping a positive income, which will depend greatly on the outcome of this year's plant sale which is to be held without dug plants, due to the continued presence of Asian jumping worms.

It was recognized that not digging plants from member's gardens is a huge loss because many peoples have typically come for perennials. Further, the suggestion of offering bare-root dug plants was deemed highly labor-intensive and not suitable for all varieties. Sally announced that she has a volunteer coordinator for the plant sale, which will be a public joint venture with the CCE Master Gardener tool sale this year.

A comment was made by Cathy that left over plants from last year's private plant sale were donated to Doors of Hope. Sally asked that all SLGC members start thinking about ideas of how to have a successful plant sale this year and that she plans to organize plant sale meetings in preparation for the May 14th sale.

To bring discussion back to dues, Russ Gettig suggested that we wait until the September meeting to see if we need to raise the price. This view was met with general agreement, following a few more comments that 73 members paying dues would result in over \$700 in income, and Anna Church reporting that Sand Lake Seniors recently, successfully, raised dues from \$10 to \$15. The issue was tabled for now and will be put on the September agenda.

Board meetings time and place – Presently meetings are held at 5:30 PM before the Member meeting at 7:00 PM. Sally suggests having one or two more extended, casual, Board meetings outside of the regular time.

The March meeting will still be held on Zoom, while the April meeting will take place in the Sand Lake Town Hall at 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM, prior to the 6:30 PM to 7:00 PM “meet and greet” session to which the CCE Master Gardeners are being invited.

To address the fact that Obie Savage has chosen to revert from Board-member-at-large to regular club membership, a motion was entered by Cathy, seconded by Hollis, that the Board be returned to be a nine-member unit. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business:

Update of SLGC pamphlet for 2022 needed? – Cathy showed the Member Pamphlet to the Board indicating that it had recently been refreshed and did not need updating. The plant Sale being noted as held on the second Saturday of May is correct.

Meet and greet before member meeting in April – The Master Gardeners meet and greet has been scheduled to occur one-half hour before the member meeting.

Change in April 21st program – the program “Deer in the Garden” by Alice Howard, Master Gardener Trainee, has been changed to “Container Gardening by Becky Bell and Janice Berryann. Alice is in Puerto Rico for the winter.

SLGC records retention and responsibilities – Sally and Cathy visited the SL Town Hall to look at the SLGC records that are stored there. They found documents back to 1994, including quite a bit of financial material. Joan Gross is financial auditor and keeps financial records for 7 years, however receipts can be discarded after an audit. Sally, as a president’s responsibility, is putting together binders for Minutes and Members Programs. The SL Town can provide an LCD projector and Sally will bring her computer to help facilitate. (???)

Invite Committee Chairs to Board meetings for timely updates – There were no objections to this proposal and Andy Mace offered that this was a good idea.

Committee Reports:

Results of Survey – Four suggestions noted by Sally would all require by-law changes. Merging Conservation & Preservation with Horticulture Committees; make Finance committee a position; clarify wording for Nominations Committee; merge Gardener of the Year, Scholarship & Garden of the Month into Awards Committee. While perhaps valid suggestions, they were not considered by the Board to be in the category requiring the time-consuming nature of changing the by-laws at this time. An additional suggestion regarding combining Door Prizes with Hospitality was not deeply discussed.

Committee Volunteers for:

Website – Bill Glasser

Scholarship – Eileen and Janice, Co-Chairs

Community Clean-up – Anna & several people

Holiday Party – Eileen & Anna, Co-Chairs

Conservation & Preservation – Joan Gross, Chair since at least 2016

Horticulture – Joan Gross, resuming answering questions & sending out information

Plant Sale – Kim Tucci, Coordinator

Trips – Rose & Hollis, Co-Chairs

Programs – Volunteers needed

Communications coordination – Joan Grusensky is happily relinquishing these tasks to Joan Gross. Responsibilities include sending meeting notices, dues notices and maintaining & updating the member list. Thank you to Joan and Joan for your participation in this important function.

Final Comments:

Hollis posed a question regarding the timing of the Member Business Meeting. Was this meeting still to be held after the Program Presenter? Answer, Yes.

Scott Gallery, the SL Town Supervisor, has inquired through Sally if any SLGC members are interested in helping to design or make suggestions for town gardening projects.

Kim Kats, with Grafton Lake State Park, is looking for help with their gardens, native plants, and what and where to plant things. Volunteer help would be greatly appreciated.

There were no other comments. Sally emphasized that lots of help is needed for the Plant Sale. Marie Heller, CCE coordinator for speakers, is a helpful resource for programs. She thanked everybody for participating. Be open to conversations, be flexible, keep it simple.

Motion to adjourn, made by Cathy, seconded by Anna, was passed.

Board Meeting closed at 6:41PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Rose Dorr, Co-Secretary**