

The Virginia Beach Garden Club

General Membership Meeting September 17, 2014 The Princess Anne Country Club

President Lynda Strickler called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m. . The Collect was delivered by Sandy Burroughs. The President welcomed new members: Jodie Berndt, Jane Booth, Tessa Davis, Kate Michaels, Lee Trant, Holli Wachtmeister, Karen Woodward, and our Jr. VBGC representative, Ann Harvard Hooper. Appreciation was given to committees who worked over the summer: F.F.F., HGW, Zone and Yearbook and to Weegie Mantz and Wanda Sellers for today's arrangements. Members were reminded to have expenditures over \$200 approved by the Board and to notify Molly Ill of yearbook changes. It was announced that these members had received recognition: Mary Denny in the GCA August Bulletin and Demaris Yearick in the July 8 Beacon for the SPCA Rain Garden. Claire Cassada, Meg French, Kay Shiflett and Jean Marie Randolph were thanked for their service to Mary's Garden at Sentara VB. Tina Minter will be speaking about the Pearl Home project at the GCV Conservation Workshop, "Think Outside the Box."

Officer Reports

Molly Ill, Vice President – Programs for the year were announced: **October**, "Windowsill Arranging"; **November**, joint meeting with GC of Norfolk, **December**, Holiday Cocktail Party at the home of Joan Lyons and Holiday Coffee at the home of Audrey Parrot; **January**, "Seeds to Beads" (Botanical Arts); **February**, Beekeeping; **March**; Savor the Olive; **April**, Annual Business Meeting; **May**, Annual May Meeting at the home of Kathy Carter. **Joan Lyons, Treasurer** – It was explained that our monies were in two funds, The General Fund which covers operations and now stands at \$8,618.23 and Ways and Means Fund which covers all charitable contributions with a balance of \$27,782.36 Additional small funds include Flower Show, \$1,500. and future horticulture speaker, also at \$1,500 for a total of \$39,400.59 An additional account has been created for the Zone VII meeting under the watch of Sally Kitchin.

Committee Reports

Julie MacKinlay, VBGC Fund – Attendance at the GCV Williamsburg Symposium was encouraged. It is also hoped that VBGC will continue to donate to the fund to pay for travel of VBGC delegates to GCA and GCV events. Julie expressed her gratitude for the 2014 Sandra Baylor Award. **Betsy Cromwell, Conservation** – Nature Camper, Tawny Stinson was reported to have enjoyed the experience and was thankful for the opportunity. Additional announcements included: a basket for batteries will be provided at all meetings; a contribution to the VB Middle School Butterfly Garden was given, the candidates forum at Lynnhaven River Now will be held October 20 and an appeal to continue promoting Pearl Homes was made. Betsy was pleased to announce that Senator Jeff McWaters may introduce legislation to restrict the use of plastic grocery bags and to allow localities to restrict water consumption. **Emily Mills, Historic Garden Week**- HGW Bootcamp offered great suggestions including making the event more regional and less local. The homes plus the new Brock Center were announced for the 2015 tour, "A Day at the Beach." There will be a coordinated transportation piece to this year's tour. **Ann Malbon, Fall Flower Festival** – The President asked for help in locating storage space. The chair reported that all was on schedule and that members should use social media to get the word out. New aprons were modeled. There will be hired labor for heavy lifting and deliveries. Dana Parker and Susan Wynne encouraged member donations to "Roots and Shoots" and "Second Hand Rose." **Kay Shiflett, Scholarships** – As the Zone VII representative for the GCA Horticultural Scholarship, Kay announced that this was a merit based program available to undergraduate or graduate students in any field related to conservation, horticulture or environmental science. **Lucy Lee, Flower Shows** – Thanks was given to Kay Shiflett, Molly Rueger, Weegie Mantz and Wanda Sellers for participation in last year's Lily Show and to Cathy Cockrell for transporting the arrangement. She also noted that participation in the three flower shows was mandatory. **Donna Haycox, Horticulture** – It was announced that we would have horticulture exhibited at four meetings, to be set up by 10:00a.m. We would have two workshops, seed and propagation. GCV Field Day would be held in Winchester this May.

New Business Betty Miles read descriptions of the two Common Wealth Award nominees, the Ashland Train Station and The Canal Walk at Great Shiplock Park. Members voted for The Ashland Train Station to receive the award. The President announced Nominating Committee members: Molly Rueger, Chic Gronsgall and Mac Houfek. Molly Ill presented the new website design with a projector. President Strickler reminded members of the October 20 Lynnhaven River Now program at the Central Library; the upcoming GCV Symposium and the October 3 event at Norfolk Botanical Gardens. Betsy Agelasto expressed her appreciation for receiving the de Lacy Gray Award.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lou Flowers, Recording Secretary

