

**The Virginia Beach Garden Club**  
**General Membership Meeting**  
**October 21, 2015**  
**Brock Environmental Center**

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. Dana Parker gave the collect. The president welcomed the membership to the new Brock Environmental Center and announced that the September minutes stood approved as there were no corrections. A slide show of the Zone VII meeting, prepared by Karen Woodard, played during the announcements.

**Officer Reports: Molly Ill, Vice-President** noted that beekeeper, Pam Fisher would deliver the November 18 meeting, "What's Buzzing in Your Garden" and the December 16 social would be held at the home of Betty Sundin. **Joan Lyons, Treasurer** reported that the balance of The General Fund stood at \$21,207.69; the balance of the Ways and Means Fund stood at \$34,778.36; and that \$1,500 continued to stand in both the Small Flower Show and the Horticulture Speaker Funds.

**Committee Reports: Demaris Yearick, Community Projects** informed the club that the plastic flat containers from the FFF were recyclable and worth .60 each. She also asked for project recommendations and invited all members to give input or to join the committee. **Tina Minter, Conservation** reminded members to suggest the names of young people who may want to be future nature campers. She also wants VBGC to be mindful of our national parks, (a priority this year for GCV) and complemented PAGC for their upcoming "Party in the Park" event. Tina concluded by thanking members for their well wishes concerning her recent medical procedure. **Betsy Cromwell, Conservation** once again stressed the importance of supporting Lynnhaven River Now and the Pearl Home Project. **Allison McDuffie and Nancy Freeman**, FFF thanked members for their hard work at the annual fundraiser, especially those who contributed to profits by way of pre-sales. **Emily Mills, HGW** was not present at today's meeting but a sign-up sheet for hostessing and arranging was passed at her request.

**Special Reports: Mary Denny and Martha Goodman, GCA Zone VII Meeting**, thanked all members for their hard work in making the GCA Zone meeting a success. The chairs were then pleased to read a most positive letter from GCA President Anne Copenhaver who regretted her inability to attend but praised GCA Zone VII and VBGC for an informative and enjoyable meeting. Awards presented to VBGC at the meeting were The Corliss Knapp Engle Horticulture Award for most points in the flower show and The Zone VII Conservation Award (Betsy Agelasto was thanked for helping to write and submit a letter of our club's efforts.) Member, Susan Gentry received the Zone Horticulture Award; member Cathy Cottrell was presented the Falcouner Minor Award, also received by Susan Gentry in 2010; and member Demaris Yearick received the Ann Lyon Crammond Award. VBGC had nominated Joan and Macon Brock to receive the Zone Improvement Commendation which they were awarded, Joan accepted the honor. **President Lynda Strickler, Board of Governors** reported that at the meeting in Martinsville October 13-15, the \$10,000 GCV Common Wealth Award was presented to the Blue Ridge Detention Center. Also, the president noted that the first GCV Conservation and Environment Studies Fellow was introduced, her focus being the endangered Yellow Pitcher Plant. Lynda also announced that five Virginia State Parks, Virginia Beach's False Cape being one of them, will be the focus of attention for GCV this year, the BOG meeting keynote speaker was Craig Seaver, Director of Virginia State Parks. Nancy Freeman was congratulated on her creative arrangement of recycled material and succulents which was exhibited at the meeting.

**Announcements: President Strickler** encouraged members to attend the PAGC fundraiser "Party in the Park" at First Landing State Park on October 24. She also repeated that four display pedestals, long held in storage, were available to anyone who wanted them. The president then introduced Christy Everett, Hampton Roads Director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation who presented the program, "The Health of our Waterways" followed by a tour of The Brock Environmental Center and a boxed lunch. The business meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

Lou Flowers, Recording Secretary