

The Virginia Beach Garden Club
General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, March 21, 2018
The Cavalier Hotel

Attendance: Active Members: 49 Associates: 12 Guests: 2

The meeting was called to order by President Molly Ill at 10:32 a.m. She welcomed all to the meeting including our speakers, **Ann Hanbury Callis** and **Sandra Baylor**. The collect was given by **Cheryl Jordan** and the February minutes stood approved. The President thanked **Molly Ruegar** and **Lynda Briggs** for the wonderful Flower Arranging Workshop. The President also recognized Becky Mason for planning all of the workshops.

Officer and Committee Reports

Corresponding Secretary, Katherine Richardson reminded members to send a note to her if they have missed three or more meetings. **HGW, Joan Stumborg** noted that HGW brochures will no longer be available for pick up from Emily Mills' garage after Thursday. Joan encouraged members to attend the **Painted Garden Art Show**. April 18th is Social Media Day and those who "like" HGW posts on Facebook will help to spread the word. **Ellen Sinclair** is very excited about the artwork that will be displayed at the Painted Garden Art Show. The Opening Reception will be held April 14th. Ellen thanked **Audrey and Allen Parrott** for their sponsorship. **Connie Owen** reported that **HGW** tickets are available on Jane's Booth. **Conservation, Allison McDuffie** invited all to attend the 2nd seminar on **Sea Level Rising and Climate Changes** on April 11th at the Brock Center. Allison reviewed recyclable items. Local charities are accepting clean, empty medication bottles. Allison was excited to announce that she received an email from Laura Habr thanking the club for the submitting our letter Opposing Off Shore Drilling. The letter was received by **Walter Cruickshank, Director of BOEM**. **Horticulture, Nancy Freeman** reported that the Seed Workshop was a success. The **GCV Daffodil Day** will be held March 28th and the **GCV Horticulture Field Day** will be in Lynchburg June 5-6. Molly reviewed proposed changes for **Standing Rules and ByLaws** for next year. A proposal to increase dues to **\$175** will offset the rising registration fees and costs for attending **GCA** and **GCV** meetings, as well as help provide more funds for speakers. The elimination of the requirement of members to purchase HGW tickets is also proposed. Ticket purchases will be encouraged, but not mandatory. The requirement for members to contribute to the **Flower Fund** will be eliminated. Beginning in 2019, the Flower Fund will receive money from sponsorships. The Board has approved these changes and a vote will be taken in April. **Treasurer, Ann Crenshaw** thanked Molly Ill for her help revising the budget. Copies of the **VBGC Budget 2018-2019** were distributed and reviewed with the membership. A vote on the budget will be take place next month. **February Financials-General Funds:** \$59,382.17; **Ways and Means:** \$9,869.94; **Small Flower Show Fund:** \$1,500; **Total Balance:** \$70,752.11. **Community Projects, Donna Haycox** thanked her committee for their hard work. She and her committee reviewed the **VBGC Proposed Community Projects for 2018**. A vote will be taken at April's meeting. President Molly Ill thanked Donna and her committee. Molly distributed information to the club outlining the **Proposed Changes to the Bylaws and Standing Rules** including elimination of Honorary Member sections, dues increase and HGW changes. A vote considering these changes will be taken in April.

Announcements

Molly noted that the **Caladium Bulb Sale** sheet as well as the **Weeding Schedule** for the **Aquarium** is on Jane's Booth. Anyone with questions concerning the Aquarium please contact **Wanda Sellers**.

Lou Flowers introduced speaker and **Past President, Sandra Baylor** who presented "A Brief History of the Virginia Beach Garden Club."

Lou introduced our second speaker, author **Ann Hanbury Callis** who presented "A History of the Cavalier Hotel."

Following the speakers, **Bruce Thompson**, developer of the Cavalier, stopped by to thank the club for coming and for their support of Camp Grom.

Molly Ill adjourned the meeting at 12:26 p.m. for the luncheon.

Weege Mantz, Recording Secretary

