**Minutes of the Sept 26, 2022 board meeting of the Evening Garden Club (EGC)**

The meeting convened at 10am at the home of Anne Schroeder with Janet Magedanz presiding. Also attending were Hanne Niederhausen, Heinrich Niederhausen, Heather Emberson, Becca Smith, Gayle Parrish, and Nancy Mandel.

Minutes: Prior to the meeting, the June board minutes were distributed by email. There being no corrections Janet declared the minutes approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Janet read the highlights from the treasurer’s report. The club has over $11,000, enough that it can take a break from fundraising.

Book Sale: Kathleen Rochester has the books obtained by the club last February at the library book sale. She will have them for sale at the October meeting. Funds go to the club.

EGC website: The website committee consists of Janet, Melissa Cowan and Gayle. Bekki Levien who created the original website, has been retained to implement any changes and to maintain the website. Janet said she hasn’t had time recently to work on this, perhaps the club needs somebody to monitor the website for needed updates. Heather reported that the website is still not working properly for new member signups.

Membership Chair: The club still does not have a membership chair to replace Heather. Janet will ask somebody to take this position. If that fails, Heather will try to recruit a replacement.

Membership: Heather reported that we now have 152 members, that is nearly twice as many as we had four years ago. She is concerned that the club is getting so big that it will change the nature of the club, that it will not be as close knit as in the past. Several ideas were discussed to promote member participation and social interaction. Nancy will start EGC garden book club and make the announcement at the meeting and on trumpetvine. Anne suggested icebreakers at the in-person meetings. It was decided that Janet would try asking a garden related question at the meeting and ask for responses.

Corresponding secretary: Becca announced that she needed to step down as co-secretary as she will have a time conflict and be unable to attend daytime meetings. However, she was willing to be the corresponding secretary and take over thank you note duties. A motion was passed accepting her resignation and making her corresponding secretary.

New Member Interests: Heather listed new members, their interests and willingness to volunteer. There was a variety of interests, and several are willing to volunteer.

Fundraising committee: Heather is the chair of this committee. In the past, the plant and the bulb sales have been the club’s primary non-dues fund raisers. The people who organized and carried out these sales are burnt out and no longer wish to continue. If other members wish to take on these sales the club does have supplies. Heather has created a list with many ideas for alternative ways to raise funds. The Quilts in the Garden event with the Mary’s River Quilt Guild was a great success. Perhaps we could partner with other organizations in fundraising. She also suggested having monthly fundraising events and has created a list of possible activities. Heather is the presently the only member of the committee but will recruit other committee members at the October meeting.

Financial Review: Marge Alig did a financial review of the club. She said everything looks good, but has some suggestions to make bookkeeping more efficient.

October General Meeting: This is the annual business meeting the club is required to have. The business meeting and announcements will take place first then Nancy will give a presentation on Gardens Across America. She has the necessary equipment. Hanne will buy two $10 gift cards from Shonnard’s to give out as drawing prizes.

November General Meeting: The November meeting is always a plant exchange. Since we have many new members, Janet will explain at the October meeting how the plant exchange meetings work.

Garden Tour: Janet received from Lois Moss a proposed garden tour of Western Washington. This would be a five-day/four-night tour from July 13 to July 17. The cost would be around $2,000 and would include lodging, transportation, entrance fees, a tour guide, and some meals. Discussion was very favorable to the idea. Janet will announce this at the October meeting.

**The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.**

**Submitted by Nancy Mandel, secretary**