

Minutes of the June 12, 2023 board meeting of the Evening Garden Club (EGC)

The meeting convened at 2pm at the Imagine Coffee House with Janet Magedanz presiding. This was the last board meeting for the current board as our fiscal and officer year ends June 30. Incoming officers were invited to attend. Other current officers attending were Hanne and Heinrich Niederhausen, Heather Emberson, Karen Hopson, Harriet Plumley, Gayle Parrish, and Nancy Mandel. Incoming officers in attendance who are new to the board were Judi deBord, Nancy Haldeman, and Patrick Emblidge

Minutes: Minutes of the April 23 board meeting were approved. There was no board meeting in May.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's April and May's reports were reviewed and accepted. EGC had a total of \$10,289.95 at the end of May.

Positions needing filling: The co-treasurer and membership chair positions need to be filled. The Nomination Committee will be urged to find someone to fill the co-treasurer position. This is an urgent need as Hanne and Heinrich agreed to stay one extra year to mentor a new treasurer but no longer. Co-treasurer is an elected position; a special election will be required.

Janet is Trumpetvine coordinator and is currently acting as the membership chair. Her current three responsibilities regarding new members are: 1. Add the member's email to the Trumpetvine Google group, 2. Enter data into membership Excel file, and 3. Send a "Welcome" email. Once a year, the webmaster is sent a membership list to post on the website. This is only done once a year because of the cost of updating the website. Previously Svetlana Dascaluc volunteered to take over as membership chair. Janet will confirm that she is still willing. This is an appointed position.

Programs: The club has eight programs per year, one per month from October through May. Programs are arranged by the Program Committee which presently consists of Ruby Moon and Cathy Kerr as co-chairs. Heather has been very involved in the process for next year and Karen has been advising. Heather reported on what is presently planned. The October meeting will be a plant exchange and the annual business meeting. The November meeting will feature Shika Gottfried speaking on her travels in East Africa. The December meeting is a greens meeting, February is Eileen Stark on growing natives, March is Sharon Knight and possibly another speaker about adapting gardening tools and techniques to aging and disabilities, April is a panel on landscape design, and in May Janet Throop will speak on growing vegetables year-round. January is still undecided. The January and February meetings are Zoom only; the other programs are in-person only. Heather feels it is important to have a variety of topics since our members have a variety of interests and this program list satisfies that. There will also be events in the summer for members to socialize.

Membership Report: Janet reported that we have 163 members. She said some members are not receiving the newsletter or it is going into their Spam filter. Heather said that there are some mistakes in the membership Excel file. She also said that keeping the membership forms is important since they contain information about the new member's interests, skills, and willingness to volunteer. Hanne said she has been scanning these.

Website Request: We received a request from Greenislove.org, a youth nature and conservation club, to put an information page on the EGC website about rain gardens that one of their members had created. Gayle said that maintaining our website is expensive since we pay Bekki Levine for that service. She felt we really can't afford to open it up to other organizations. The consensus was we would not host this group's information page on our website.

Juneteenth Event: The Linn-Benton NAACP is sponsoring a Juneteenth Celebration at the Corvallis Community Center (C3) on Monday, June 19, 4 to 7pm. The EGC will have a table there to recruit new members to enhance the diversity of our membership. Heather is leading this event for the club and previously got approval for club participation from the board via email. She has made an information display board and will make appropriate forms and handouts. Janet assured her that these costs fell within the miscellaneous line in the budget. Harriet said that we still have about 100 copies of the old information handout that can be used. Several members have volunteered to help at the event. Trader Joe's agreed to give the club flowers to give visitors to our table. Nancy M suggested having a table at the Lincoln School annual June festival to recruit Hispanic members.

Financial Review: A Financial Review Chair must be appointed to review the books for the year now closing. Janet deferred that action to Heather.

Ice Cream Social: Last year's Ice Cream Social was a great success, and it was agreed that we should repeat it. Janet volunteered to host it again. It is scheduled for Monday July 24 from 3 to 5 pm. Participants must bring bowls and spoons. An ad hoc group of 3-4 people should be identified to facilitate the event (buy ice cream, set up tables, etc.)

Other Summer Events: There will be Tomato Tasting in August and a potluck in September.

Board meetings: The board has been meeting at 10am on the last Monday of the month at Imagine Coffee. However, that can be changed to better accommodate members' schedules. Specifically, we can change the meeting time to accommodate Patrick's work schedule. We don't meet in months where there is little or no business to discuss. As the new president Heather will schedule board meetings.

Homegrown National Park: Gayle reported that this project is progressing well. There are new fliers, the Facebook page is active, and they had an information table at the Farmer's Market.

Good Turn Project: Karen reported that the downtown corner we are maintaining is looking good, however she, Melissa Cowan and two others were the only members who showed up at the last workday. She was wondering how to get more volunteers. Heather will discuss this with her.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.

Submitted by Nancy Mandel, co-secretary.