

Minutes of the September 29, 2025 Board Meeting of the Evening Garden Club (EGC)

The meeting was called to order at 2:02pm at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church with EGC president Nancy Mandel presiding. Board members in attendance were Janet Magedanz, Al Shay, David Mandel, Jane Helfen, and Becca Smith. Carrie Ottow attended as a guest.

Minutes: A motion passed to approve the August 04, 2025 board meeting minutes.

Financial Report: A motion passed to accept the August 2025 financial report. Total EGC assets were \$21,228.13 as of 08/31/2025.

Fundraising Committee: Carrie Ottow announced an upcoming raffle. Tickets can be purchased during October and November, with the winners announced when all tickets are sold. The recent rummage sale netted approximately \$500. The online bulb sale through Brent and Becky's Bulbs is on-going, with a portion of each purchase by EGC members given back to the club.

EGC 501 (c) (3) Status: EGC is currently a subordinate organization of Oregon State Federation of Garden Clubs (OSFGC). EGC's Nancy M. and Janet M., along with Santiam District Director, Jean Chapin recently met with Rebecca Cook, president of Oregon State Federation regarding issues and practices. If EGC withdraws from OSFGC as a subordinate, we will need to file for our own 501 (c) (3) status, which would result in significant savings on our insurance premium. The OSFGC dues, which includes liability insurance, will not be paid until after October 31, 2025 and will be valid through June 30, 2026. Janet M. plans to reach out to the National Federation to clarify current OSFGC practices. EGC can still maintain membership in OSFGC without subordinate status. The board will revisit this issue at the next board meeting.

Grants Committee Chair: Christina Clark will be the grants committee chair for the current term. Jane Helfen will join the grants committee and has agreed to take over after Christina's term if no one else will. Sheryl Casteen is also considering joining the grants committee and possibly becoming chair.

Liaison Needed for Greens Party: EGC will join Benton County Master Gardeners for the annual Greens Party on December 02, 2025 from 3:00-7:00pm. Janet M. has agreed to, once again, be the liaison for this event. More information to follow.

Community Projects: Floral Therapy and the Good Turns project have had more volunteers joining in and are currently stable.

EGC Budget for 2025-26: Nancy M. asked the board for any additional input on the proposed budget. No changes were suggested and membership will vote on this budget at the upcoming business meeting on Monday, October 06, 2025.

Results of Pop-up ZOOM presentation held on September 22, 2025: This presentation showcasing members' garden photos was a success! David Mandel plans to make the presentation available for viewing on YouTube.

Annual Financial Review: EGC member Harriet Plumbley completed the financial review for last year. This will be discussed at the October 06, 2025 business meeting.

Workshops: Al Shay is planning to conduct workshops, most likely starting in early 2026. Al's tool maintenance program will cover ladder safety, equipment maintenance, sharpening, and proper techniques. He will also provide a pruning workshop to demonstrate appropriate practices, which will ideally be held at a member's home. These workshops will be approximately 50 minutes in length. More information to follow.

Annual Business Meeting: The annual business meeting will be held on Monday, October 06, 2025 at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church. A plant exchange will take place after the meeting.

Additional Items: The daughter of EGC's past-president, Louise Copes, is requesting a floral arrangement for Louise's memorial service to be held on November 22, 2025. Janet M. will choose a florist to craft the arrangement and include cuttings from her own lovely garden. Janet will attend the service as well.

Janet has set up on-line payments for dues through Zeffy, which can be accessed through the EGC website. The ability to make donations will be added later.

Next Board Meeting: The next board meeting will be held on Monday, October 27, 2025 at 2:00pm at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church.

The meeting concluded at 3:23pm

Submitted by Becca Smith, EGC secretary