

VICTORIA GARDENS WOMEN'S CLUB BOD
MEETING MINUTES APRIL 7, 2022 - 9:00 AM

Members in attendance:

Laura Blackburn, President; Bonnie Friedman, Vice President; Barbara Solis, Treasurer; Directors: Joan Neumann, Rosie McKenna, Lynn Reim, Susan McMahon, and Ellen Haynes.

TODAY'S MEETING DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- **Cruise Week Status:**

Please refer to Linda's report for a complete update.

Additionally, there is a Cruise Week Bake sale which will be held April 28th from noon to 3pm and 5:00pm to 7:30pm. Baked goods should be dropped off between 9am and noon on the 28th. Savannah Pincott is the contact and can be reached via text at 386 341-0885 or kspincott@aol.com. Let her know what you are bringing!

- **Mt. Dora Trip Feedback (Lynn):**

The trip to Mt. Dora was a wonderful experience. Everyone seemed to enjoy the day. The trolley ride was delightful, and the meal was very good. Due to lower-than-expected enrollment, the second day was canceled. We were able to recoup most of the deposits but had to pay the trolley company a bit extra for the bus that we did not fill. This program ran a deficit of \$376. We discussed possible reasons for lower registration. They included: So much going on during these past few months due to activities back in full swing after the pandemic and the fact that so many branches are taking monthly trips. The group felt that setting up a big field trip where expensive buses were needed might not be an option for next year.

- **Gala – H2 Restart Ticket Sales:**

An advertising push and lottery board sales, at the Club House, will start the "Monday after" (5/2) Cruise Week. Jackie will work with Joan on having a new promo to be in the 5/2 Voice Edition. Our committee meeting is set for May 2nd. Agenda will go out 1 week prior.

- **Shirt & Tribute Card Promotion (All)**

In her report, Connie asked if additional T shirts should be ordered in anticipation of Cruise Week. It was decided to not order any at this time.

- **May Nomination for "Moment of Recognition"**

The BOD unanimously nominated Rosalene Feller, Cruise Week Captain for this honor.

- **Kick-off of Nominating Committee Organization Design (Rosie)**
- There was much discussion as to who will serve on this committee, whether several current or past board members should lend their knowledge of the responsibilities to this committee. We discussed the bylaws as they relate to the structure of the nomination process for appointing a slate of officers.
- An Education Director and a Fundraising Director are 2 possible positions that the VGWC will be looking to fill for the upcoming year.
- A Vice President will be needed as Bonnie informed the Board that she would be stepping down, effective May 31st. She will be looking forward to staying active in the Club, helping wherever needed on various committees.

- **Ukrainian Crisis:**
An opportunity was brought up to the BOD regarding how to support this crisis. Stetson University is sponsoring several refugee students and a professor to study and teach. The Charitable committee will explore this further regarding how we can offer support to this crisis.

GENERAL BUSINESS

- Treasurer's Report
- Secretary's Reading of the Last Minutes

2022 MEETINGS

May 5
Jun 2
Jul 7
Aug 4
Sep 1
Oct 6
Nov 3
Dec 1

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Special Events Committee-Linda's Report

Cruise Week update: We are grateful for the 12 donated baskets from our branches for the Silent auction under the direction and guidance of Jean Burns. Each week the numbers are increasing for the activities, but not as fast as we anticipated. We are hoping for that last minute surge.

Bonnie reported that the budget is doing well. As of today, we are on target to net over \$9,000. This includes admissions and cash donations. We expect this number to grow steadily each week. The programs with the heaviest enrollment include: Private Island day, Captain's Dinner, High Tea and Sail Away. We are hoping for a real push for our gaming events. The Captain's Dinner should be really special as we have added live music entertainment throughout the evening.

Gala: Advertising push and lottery board sales at the Club House will start the "Monday after" (5/2) Cruise Week. Jackie will work with Joan on having a new promo to be in the 5/2 Voice Edition. Our committee meeting is set for May 2nd. Agenda will go out 1 week prior.

Publicity/Club Support Committee – Joan's Report

Flyers Created:

Bingo

Sail Away

Cruise Week Calendar & Registration

Mt. Dora 3/23 and 3/24

Combination flyer: Volleyball, Fashion Show & Bunco

You've Heard About Cruise Week – What Is It?

Combo flyer: Pickleball, Bingo, Newlywed Game and Bake Sale Sequence

Captain's Dinner

Updated Calendar of Events

Maj Jong & Beer Garden

Mah Jong stand alone

Texas Hold 'Em and Private Island

Created Yard Signs – to be placed at front and back gate promoting Cruise Week

To be Created: Captain's Dinner Thank You Brochure

Recruited Ann Marie Mecera to help me. She is changing chalk board with Cruise Week promo each week. She is also willing to help create flyers over the summer, if needed.

Programming Committee – Lynn's Report

May 11, 2022: Ballroom Dance Exhibition

The 2022-2023 Calendar is shaping up nicely. Lots of great ideas for topics and speakers, trying to pin down availability etc.

Dates for the 2022-2023 calendar:

September 14, 2022: Mary Flynn “Hallmark Card Writer” (is Rebooked)

October 12, 2022: Feature Charities in some type of forum?? (Wine & cheese 3-4:30??)

November 9, 2022: Possible fashion show? “Local Style House” being looked at Fifth from Mount Dora said she’d be excited to come back.

December 14, 2022: Holiday Luncheon Museum Store Boutique?? VG’s sing

January 11, 2023: “ Health, Hope and Happiness” Cindy Brummitt (Booked)

February 8, 2022: John Serrano, our resident wildlife specialist (checking date)

March ??, 2023: In talks with Stetson for tours and luncheon on campus

April 12, 2023: Historical Society Speaker

May 10, 2023: Leu Gardens speaker here or tour and luncheon

Leadership Development Initiative Committee – Rosie’s Report

1. I plan to discuss the nominating process for future board members and officers at the May 5 meeting. Currently, I am selecting committee members and gathering information on procedures.
2. At the May 5 meeting I will need time to present and discuss the concept of having a community engagement program for members who are interested in contributing their time and talent to charitable activities.

Membership Committee – Connie’s Report

Connie is vacationing in St. Maarten with limited communication ability. She emailed me and stated that membership continues to grow.

Connie’s question for the BOD: **Do we want to order more T shirts for cruise week?**

Friendship Branches Committee – Ellen’s Report

The Branches embraced the Basket project for Cruise Week. Fun basket themes and creative shopping add up to baskets donated by Branch Members to add to the excitement of Cruise Week.

New Branch membership has been on the uptick this past month. Word of mouth still prevails to create excitement for the Branches.

The Branch committee met, and we are planning a thank you recognition party. The theme will be a Leader Appreciation Fiesta. We are looking into a June 3 or June 6 date.

Charitable Action Committee – Susan’s Report

1. Branch In-Kind Collection Update – each month our branches donate in-kind products that are frequently requested by the agencies we support. If you would like to donate to the in-kind collections and are not in a Branch, please contact Susan McMahon to learn more about this program.
 - a. Donations received last month from Branch Collections were greatly appreciated.
 - i. VGWC donated 156 servings of Ensure to Council on Aging of Volusia County along with personal hygiene products.
 - ii. VGWC collected 1011 diapers of various sizes and 21 packages of baby wipes last month. 596 of those diapers went immediately to Family Renew. The remainder will be stored and distributed as needed.
 - iii. Seven cleaning supply packages were pulled together from our supply and delivered to Family Renew for each apartment.
2. Neighborhood Center
 - a. VGWC was a Platinum Sponsor for the Empty Bowls fundraiser benefiting Neighborhood Center. Several members attended and had a great time. Soup and food were donated by local restaurants, and everyone was provided a handmade bowl as a reminder of the need in our community. All proceeds are used to fund Neighborhood Center’s Food Programs.
3. Council on Aging of Volusia County (COA)
 - a. VGWC donated \$2500 to the COA Dancing Through the Decades Gala. Six members attended the dinner dance. Proceeds go to support programs for seniors in Volusia County.
4. Charitable Action Committee provided a one-page summary of the charities VGWC is currently supporting. This was done in support of Cruise Week efforts to remind everyone that proceeds from these events go directly to support charitable causes in our community.