

Victoria Gardens Women's Club  
Board of Directors Meeting  
January 5, 2023

Present: Nancy Greenfield, Lynn Reim, Laura Blackburn, Barbara Solis, Rosie McKenna, Susan McMahan, Elise Saunders, Darlene Cross, Joan Neuman, Pat Martuscello, Connie Cross (Zoom)

Absent: Ruth Chrismore

- I. Moment of Recognition candidates: Lynn spoke about thinking of a person for February. Cheryl Sullivan was suggested for February Certificate of Recognition due to her leadership on the Giving Tree Project.
- II. January Event: Lynn led the discussion as to the room set up and what would be needed in the hallway. A popup display from the Beacon center, the 50/25/25 raffle table, and a table for Casino night. Elaine Kosakis from the Beacon center will say a few words at the luncheon and Elise will speak about Casino Night. Cindy Brummit is the presenting speaker.
- III. Casino Night Update: Elise spoke about the prizes, \$5,000 value to date. There are golf, dining out, lottery, adventure packages, air B and B's and spas were mentioned. Some packages may be split up. Elise said the food was right on track, she is working with Renee. Decorations are all under control. Darlene spoke about more sponsors, and tapping into more restaurant connections, as well as contacting a cruise line. Laura spoke about the importance of sponsors, and donators being thanked in the program.

Nancy spoke about people baking for the event, and passed around a sheet for more people to sign up. Who wants to Be a Millionaire Board with lottery tickets will be a raffle. Tickets will be sold.

- IV. Charity Updates: Susan gave an update on the Giving Tree Project. 335 tags were hung on the trees and ALL were returned with people being more than generous. Over \$15,000 worth of gifts were delivered. Fidget blankets will be presented at a later date. Ways of thanking the community were discussed. The new Family Renew Playground is a huge hit. Some Women's club members, as well as Men's club members attended a dedication ceremony before Christmas Break. Beginning February 15<sup>th</sup> the Master Gardeners will start to plant around the playground. Joan and Laura will make a Thank You flyer for the women and men's clubs.
  
- V. Sunshine Connection: Nancy and Rosie spoke about getting representatives from each branch. So far 7 branches out of 13 have a coordinator. Street Captains are currently serving as "back up". We are making progress, certainly have more outreach than before. Connie suggested that we have a "new members orientation" of some kind. Perhaps one in the fall, and one in the spring. This is going to be back on the agenda for March. Nancy also spoke about Face Book. It seems it really isn't working out well, as no one can post on it. Laura explained we need a business account with a personal account attached to it. The search is on to recruit someone to set this up for us. Nancy also spoke about Tribute Cards, a simple way to

let people know we are thinking of them. Nancy has them available, 5 cards for 22.00.

- VI. Exrta: Shredding event with the Men's club will be February 18<sup>th</sup>. Susan is working with the men's club to coordinate volunteers, and food item collections. It was suggested that the Shredding Event be held in March so that it's not too close to Casino Night.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM

## Committee Reports

### **PUBLICITY/CLUB SUPPORT DIRECTOR'S REPORT\_** **for January 5, 2022 Board Meeting**

By Joan Neumann

Created the following in December 2022:

Sunshine Connection – logo, letter, hand out for luncheon

WC Luncheon – January 11, 2023 flyer featuring Cindy Brummitt

WC Luncheon – started February 8, 2023 flyer featuring John Serrao  
(waiting for menu & prices)

Casino Night – tickets (not using), registration flyer, updated registration flyer

with

new information, poster

Joan Neumann

## FRIENDSHIP TREE JANUARY BOARD REPORT

THE FRIENDSHIP BRANCHES ENDED THE YEAR WITH HOLIDAY PARTIES  
AND DONATIONS TO OUR CHARITIES.

IN THE PAST CALENDAR YEAR THE BRANCHES DONATED \$ 2738.40  
TO OUR CHARITIES AS WELL AS MANY IN KIND DONATIONS.

IN JANUARY THE BRANCH MEMBERS WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE LAUNCH  
OF THE SUNSHINE CONNECTION PROGRAM. 2 COORDINATORS FROM  
EACH BRANCH WILL BE INVOLVED.

I ATTENDED THE DEDICATION OF THE PLAYGROUND AT FAMILY RENEW  
AND ATTENDED THE CASINO PARTY PLANNING MEETING.

NANCY GREENFIELD

DIRECTOR OF THE FRIENDSHIP TREE PROGRAM



*Socialize With A Purpose*

## **Victoria Gardens Women's Club**

### **Charitable Action Committee – Jan 2023 BOD Update**

#### **Charitable Action Committee**

##### **i. Annual Giving Tree**

- i. 335 tags were placed on the trees, all gifts returned. Estimated value of new gifts provided is \$15,000, however we know many packages contained “extra” gifts from what was requested on the tag.
- ii. Non-profits who benefited from the annual gifting were Family Renew, Council on Aging, Guardian-ad-litem (Foster children), The Beacon Center and The Bridge Residents at The Neighborhood Center
- iii. Huge thanks to Cheryl Sullivan for heading up this project again this year and her crew of Elves who assisted. Approximated 100 volunteer hours went into making this project a success. Thanks also to Clubhouse staff for assisting with the trees, room space and assisting residents with questions and tag assignments! We appreciate the partnership!
- iv. We are so grateful to the entire VG Community for their outpouring of generosity and support of this gifting initiative!

##### **ii. Annual Food Drive and Shred Event**

- a. VG Women's and Men's clubs will once again host an on-site Shred event. Event will be held outside on the clubhouse parking lot. A mobile Shred truck will be available to shred documents as they are dropped off. We are asking residents to provide donations of non-perishable food in exchange for document shredding.
- b. Tentative date is Saturday, February 18. Look for an announcement soon with more details.

##### **iii. Agency Updates**

###### **a. Council on Aging of Volusia County (COA)**

- i. Ellen Haynes organized a Holiday Party at the Orange City Senior Center. The VG “Wranglers” performed, light refreshments were served and a good time had by all who attended. Despite the rough weather that day, many local seniors attended and were filled with Holiday Spirit!
- ii. Special thanks to Ellen Haynes for organizing and volunteers who made this such a huge success and win for our local seniors!

###### **b. Family Renew**

- i. The new playground was completed and dedicated in December. This joint project with the Men's club was a huge success. We dedicated the playground to the Family Renew Community and enjoyed seeing the children climbing,

swinging and having a grand time. One Mom said “it was the greatest thing that has happened at the apartments. Her children play on the playground every afternoon when they get home. As a Mom she appreciates it is right in the back yard, she can watch the children knowing they are safe and having a good time!”

- ii. The Master Gardners group will now step in and when weather permits begin planting the sustainable raised garden. This will complete the transformation of this back yard space for the apartments. Thanks to the Master Gardeners and Rosie McKenna for picking up this phase of the project.
- iii. This project stayed on budget at \$5000. Approximately 70 volunteer hours went into completing this project.

**c. Neighborhood Center**

- i. Simple gifts and Walmart Gift Card were provided to each of the 30 Bridge residents for the Holidays.

**d. The Beacon Center**

- i. Pajamas and age appropriate toys were provided for each child residing at the shelter. Staff and residents were overwhelmed and grateful for the generosity of our VG residents!

**e. FBH Community (formerly: Food Brings Hope)**

- i. We continue to look for opportunities to engage with this organization.

**iv. In-Kind Donations Update**

- a. VG Charitable Relationship Managers have begun to reach out to branches who have adopted their agency with requests as needed. As always, the branch members are responsive and generous in their giving! Thank you to everyone for your support!
- b. If any member is interested in donating in-kind items and not in a branch please reach out to Susan McMahan to learn more