

The Little Garden Club of Memphis
Board Meeting
April 29, 2020
by Zoom

Attending: Ragan Magness, Mary Call Ford, Katie Eleazer, Tempe Thompson, Linda Mallory, Julie Hussey, Kim Lowrance, Michelle Dunavant, Gina White, Kathy Adams, Barbara Williamson, Lucia Crenshaw, Anne Keese, Kate Trammell, Margaret Fraser, Jeannie Tabor, Ruthie Taylor, Mimsie Crump, Sue Clark, Lisa Snowden, Vance Lewis, Liz Crosby, Paige Proctor, Natalie Latham, Kim Gibson, Weetie Whittemore, Kirk McClintock, Vance Lewis, Lisa Wilder, Catherine Dobbs, Jean Johnston, Abbie Williams, Leslie Schutt, Catherine Sikes, Katie Wiener

Mary Call Ford welcomed us to our first Zoom meeting. She thanked us for joining and called on Ragan Magness to explain Zoom protocol. Mary Call asked that we approve the February board minutes. Barbara Williamson moved, Sue Clark seconded and the board voted in approval.

Mary Call asked Weetie Whittemore to present the 2020/21 budget and the Treasurer's report. Weetie explained that the Newsletter and Website line items have been combined into a Communications line item. They have also added a line for Photography and Floral Design. Michelle Dunavant moved that we approve the budget. Vance Lewis seconded and the board voted in approval.

Treasurer's report:

Administrative Fund: \$33,734.31

Community Fund: \$42,969.27

Marguerite Turner: \$1,870.55

Zone Meeting Fund: \$12,133.12

Mary Call asked Mimsie Crump to give the Assistant Treasurer's report. Mimsie reported the following numbers:

Children's Garden: \$14,481.95

Memorial Fund: \$11,920.48

Sensory Garden: \$16,862.31

Added after the meeting, for recording purposes, the following funds are in CDs that mature in November 2020:

Administrative Account: \$37,701.40

Children's Garden Account: \$14,429.72

Community Account: \$31,725.72

Education Account: \$8,114.88

Little Garden Club Savings Account: \$1,869.70

Memorial Account: \$11,184.64

Sensory Garden Account: \$15,203.74

Zone Account: \$12,091.76

Mimsie has mailed two checks to the Memphis Botanic Garden in the amount of \$5,000 each from the Sensory and Children's Garden accounts to pay the 2019 interns. The checks have not cleared the accounts as of today, so the balances will be lower. In the future the interns will be paid in October. Mimsie asked if we have a threshold for account balances as the Children's Garden account is below \$10,000. Mary Call has confirmed with the bank that it is not a problem - minimum balance for these accounts is \$1,000.

Katie Eleazer announced that we have 4 members changing status. Chris McClure is going Life. Barbara Gassaway and Sherrill Crump are moving to Mentor. Leslie Drinan is switching to Affiliate. While we have 4 spaces available, it is Katie and several other past presidents recommendation that we only use 3. It becomes mathematically challenging to get a majority for 4 or more spaces. Discussion ensued. Natalie Latham, Lisa Snowden and Tempe Thompson agreed that having more than 3 spots is a mistake. Tempe asked how we are going to handle getting new members with so much uncertainty. Kate Trammell addressed that question by suggesting that we vote on a number of spaces and move forward as and when we can. Tempe moved that we take 3 new members in the Fall. Kate Trammell seconded. The board voted in approval.

Michelle Dunavant, travel, thanked everyone who participated on trips. She and Kate Connell gave an MVP 2020 Travel Award to Natalie Latham who was part of the original Philadelphia trip that spurred them to choose Philadelphia for our 2020 trip. Michelle virtually presented Natalie with a stuffed "Philadelphia bear" with its own fur coat. Thank you Natalie for the inspiration!

Mary Call brought up the following new business:

The Memphis Garden Club is giving away saplings. Mary Call sent an email with instructions yesterday.

The Le Bonheur Green ground breaking should be soon. It has been delayed due to rain and Covid. She will keep us updated.

Live at the Garden has unfortunately been cancelled due to Covid. It is a large part of the Memphis Botanic Garden's income. Please remember to shop the MBG Plant Sale. Mary Call is sending lunch to the staff (on behalf of LGC) in the next few weeks. Michelle Dunavant suggested that LGC purchase a brick for MBG fundraiser that was on the news last night. The board agreed to the idea.

Mary Call reminded us to get our notebooks together so that we can pass them on to our successors. Please make note of anything that has been helpful. If you do not have a notebook, Kate has a form which she will email. Kate will let everyone know to whom to pass their information.

Barbara Williamson thanked Mary Call for all of her hard work these last 2 years. She has provided joy and a great spirit in her job.

Mary Call thanked Barbara and the board. She is sorry that we didn't get to have lunch and will drop off a "happy" later. She wishes that Kate did not have to get us through such a crazy time. She will pass the bell to Kate. Kate said that we will be able to thank Mary Call formally at our Fall awards ceremony.

Linda Mallory reminded us that dues for Active members are \$300. She can start depositing them in June.

Mary Call adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Wiener, Recording Secretary