

The Little Garden Club of Memphis
Board Meeting
February 12, 2020
Memphis Botanic Garden

Attending: Mary Call Ford, Janet Misner, EJ Baird, Ruthie Taylor, Gina White, Liz Crosby, Leslie Schutt, Paige Proctor, Katherine Dobbs, Corinne Adrian, Jeanie Tabor, Michelle Dunavant, Weetie Whittemore, Julie Hussey, Kim Lowrance, Anne Keese, Kate Trammell, Vance Lewis, Kim Gibson, Kathy Adams, Lucia Crenshaw, Linda Mallory, Natalie Latham, Sue Clark, Abbie Williams, Mimsie Crump, Lisa Wilder, Kim MacQueen, and Ragan Magness

Mary Call welcomed us back today from an extended Winter break. Everyone is happy to be back. She asked that we approve the November board meeting minutes. Vance Lewis moved that we approve the minutes. Weetie Whittemore seconded Vance's motion. The board voted in approval.

Mary Call invited Janet Misner to inform us about the Memphis Botanic Garden capitol campaign, Nourish and Grow. Janet is excited that MBG is 91% funded to their goal of 6 million dollars. The Visitors Center, to which we contributed, is about to start. It is a \$700,000 project that includes new art, acoustical improvements, automatic entry doors, space for Frateli's and an expanded gift shop. Construction should begin on February 24 and last roughly 14 weeks. The MBG is still in need of Endowment fund contributions. They want to have a "rainy day" fund for unforeseen needs. Mary Call asked Kim MacQueen if she had anything else to add. Kim commented that Mike Allen has stayed on top of this and has done a great job. She is thankful for the huge effort he has exhibited.

Mary Call asked Weetie Whittemore to give the Treasurer's report. Weetie reported the following numbers:

Administrative Fund: \$34,229.31
Community Fund: \$43,838.28
Marguerite Turner: \$1,870.17
Zone Meeting Fund: \$12,123.24
GCA Education Fund: \$9,322.47

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

Children's Garden: \$14,470.06
Memorial Fund: \$11,364.64
Sensory Garden: \$16,673.60

Liz Crosby, Conservation, shared information about the Weed Wrangle. It will occur Thursday, March 5 from 9:30-12:30 at MBG. The Garden is soliciting community volunteers to supplement our efforts. When the Weed Wrangle is over, Liz will report back to GCA. We are not partnering with the Memphis Garden Club on the Weed Wrangle. It will happen rain or shine. In other conservation news, Abbie Williams is going to NAL. She is excited and will report back to us at the next meeting.

Abbie Williams, Entertainment, reminded us of the joint meeting with the Memphis Garden Club on Wednesday February 19th at 5 pm. The speaker is Frances Schultz. She is an amazing woman who is knowledgeable of many things. She is talking about her new Southwest cookbook. Our meeting participation needs to increase. The MGC has a lot more people attending than we do.

Katherine Dobbs and Paige Proctor talked about Happenings which has been rebranded as Inspirations. It has a beautiful, new logo. They are building on the successes of the past with new inspiration. Abbie Williams and Ginger Collier have been working on sponsorship. If you have any suggestions of businesses that involve or support women, please let them know. Paige and Katherine are bringing lunch back with First Bank as the sponsor. Randy Jefferson is providing the food at cost. They are really making it feel like an event by replicating Bunny William's living room at the entrance.

They are trying to maximize visual impact throughout the event. Our guests will walk through the Marketplace and find Bunny signing books in the back. Mimosas and light breakfast will be served. Inspirations is November 5, 2020. The ticket price is \$125 which is the first ticket increase since its inception. Rows of chairs will be set up in the front of Hardin Hall oriented toward the kitchen with round tables in the back that will overflow to the patio outside which will be tented.

Leslie Schutt, Horticulture, invited us to attend a Fern Propagation Workshop immediately following our meeting. Dr. MacKensie will spend about an hour working through the steps with us.

Ruthie Taylor, Photography, reminded us of the online photography contest. Entries are due to her email by February 19. Ruthie will send all of the images to Mary Call who will send them to our membership for a vote. Please send a full size image being mindful of the aspect ratio. If you have questions, ask Vance Lewis or Ruthie. The object of your image needs to be grown near or around Memphis. Michelle Dunavant has a photograph on In Focus.

Ragan Magness, Programs, spoke about our meeting next month. Marsha Cannon, who is an incredible botanical arts artist, is our speaker. She is amazing.

Michelle Dunavant, Travel, is ready for our Philadelphia trip. She has list of restaurants and recommends that we make reservations soon. She is putting together a booklet with everyone's phone number and where we are going to make communication on the trip easier. Call or email Michelle with any questions you have about the trip.

Sue Clark, Ways and Means, reminded us to sign up for IGIVE, Amazon Smile, and Kroger. Our account number at Kroger is SV277. Lisa Wilder pointed out that Kroger can be modified on the app. Kate Trammell says we can sign up at Superlo as well.

Jeannie Tabor, Sensory Garden, said that the Botanic Garden needs six more cherry trees at a cost of \$900. We have donated replacement trees for years. Jeannie also asked that we fund the Summer interns for the Sensory Garden/My Big Backyard. We have provided for 2 interns at \$5000 each in years past. I moved that we give the MBG \$10,900 to cover both the trees and the interns. Julie Hussey seconded. The board voted in approval.

Kate Trammell had a great response to the survey she sent. 66 members responded. It is a huge help for the next few years of our club. She is excited to have all of the useful information.

Mary Call brought up new business. She spoke to Michelle Rogers and Linda Hill with LeBonheur. Rose construction is working on their project. They are slated to begin in March and will keep us in the loop as to the progress and their future needs. The GCA second century campaign was successful 11.2 million dollars was raised. Zone 9 raised \$1,032,000 and 31 members of LGC contributed. Kirk McClintock is working on our Facebook page. Please join it. It is a private page. She would love to add any pictures that you take of our group. Mary Call adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Wiener, Recording Secretary