

The Little Garden Club of Memphis
Membership Meeting
November 14, 2019
Memphis Botanic Garden

Mary Call welcomed us and called the meeting to order. Susan Sully is our speaker today. Ragan will introduce her further. Mary Call asked that we welcome Lysbeth Francis from the Memphis Garden Club. Lysbeth invited us to join them for the Phoebe Cook Lecture on November 21 at 11 am at the Dixon. Isabel Bannerman is speaking. Her book *Scents Magic* is both interesting and beautiful. She has Royal connections and will be a great speaker. Mary Call complimented Linda Mallory and Gina White on the fabulous Flower Show. She has received notes from many people about the flower show. She is happy to share the notes if anyone would like to read them. The Sensory Garden 30th birthday clean up was fun and festive. Thanks to Catherine Erb and Jeannie Tabor. LGC Yearbooks and LeBonheur bags available for anyone who needs one. Mary Call asked that we approve the minutes from October. Weetie Whittemore moved that we approve. Ginger Collier seconded Weetie's motion. Membership voted to approve the minutes without discussion.

Mary Call asked Weetie for the Treasurer's report. Weetie announced that we took a total of \$211,000 from multiple accounts and put it in CD's to accumulate \$4,800 over the next 13 months. Weetie reported the following balances:

Administrative Fund: \$37,244.52 (\$30,000 CD)

Community Fund: \$31,725.72 (\$40,000 CD)

Marguerite Turner: \$1,868.41

Zone Meeting Fund: \$12,106.65 (\$30,000 CD)

GCA Education Fund: \$8,139.88 (\$20,000 CD)

Mimsie Crump gave the following in her Assistant Treasurer report:

Children's Garden: \$14,429.72 (\$45,000 CD)

Memorial: \$11,184.64 (\$11,000 CD)

Sensory Garden: \$15,203.74 (\$35,000 CD)

Flower show, Gina White and Linda Mallory, Gina thanked us all for our participation and hospitality. She is happy to report that we came in under budget. She and Linda hope to use the surplus to buy test tube containers and photography boards. Linda and Gina presented an additional award to two members. The "Extra Mile Award" went to Elizabeth Williamson and Bowie Campbell for participating in multiple ways in the show.

Mary Call pointed out that Gina is featured in *Real Dirt* for winning a propagation award for an opium poppy. Ruthie Taylor received an honorable mention. Ruthie and Kathy Adams are pictured in the magazine. Ruthie, Corinne Adrian and Leslie Schutt have an unusual project for us. It is an "underwear challenge." We are to plant cotton underwear just under the soil to check the health of our soil. Worms should eat through the cotton. On April Fools day, we are to dig them up. The directions are in the underwear they passed out. Do this project with your children and grandchildren and take pictures.

Ruthie Taylor, Photography, asks that if you submitted a photograph for the show that you stay and learn how to improve you image. Vance Lewis is going to explain how each photograph could be improved. Anyone who is interested may come. Ruthie told us that for Zone meeting they need a close up of a plant from our area. She is doing a contest like she did last year. We will submit the winning photograph to Zone meeting. Start taking photographs now. The show will be at the February meeting.

Michelle Dunavant and Kate Connell, Travel, are excited that the Philadelphia trip has 35 people attending with a wait list. Your payment balance is due December 5. The trip will be three very full days. It will be fun!

Jean Johnston, Ways and Means, announced that greenery pick up starts on Wednesday, November 27. It will be at Sue Clark's 1 Cherokee Drive behind her house. The greenery will be labeled with your name. Leave check written to Jean in the plastic box or Venmo. If you haven't received an email from Sue, Jean has your balance.

Mary Call discussed the MBG and GCA Capital campaigns. She spoke to our accountant at length and we are in a good financial position. We have \$343,000 in cash of which \$163,000 is unrestricted and \$180,000 is restricted by us. We reserve the Sensory, Children's, GCA Education and Zone funds specifically for needs in those areas which is the cause of the restriction. Our accountant said that in 4 years from 2015-2019 we had a net cash increase of \$47,000 which came from memorials, donations, and Ways and Means. The CDs will add \$4,800 per year which is not included in the accountant's \$47,000.

Kate Trammel shared that the board approved increasing the travel stipends for Shirley Meneice, NAL and Annual Meeting to \$1000. President's Council and Zone remain at \$500. Registration is paid in full for all meetings.

Mary Call brought up the MBG Capital campaign. The board voted to donate \$25,000 to the campaign over 3 years earmarked for the Visitors center. Our membership needs to vote. Mary Call asked for discussion. There was no discussion. Julie Hussey moved that we approve the board's decision. Anne Keesee seconded. The membership approved.

Mary Call moved us to the GCA Second Century campaign. The board voted to give GCA \$15,000 over 5 years earmarked for the Founder's Fund. Tempe Thompson encourages everyone make an individual contribution as well to GCA. Kate Trammell moved that we make the donation over 5 years for the Founder's Fund. Abbie Williams seconded. All voted in favor with no discussion.

Mary Call is overjoyed to announce that we raised \$61,850 from 65 members to complete the berms at the LeBonheur green space. If anyone has not contributed and would like to contribute, she would like to wrap it up tomorrow. The excess funds over the \$50,000 needed for the berms will be put in an account for LeBonheur so that we can contribute to the second phase. Anne Keesee moved that we keep the remaining funds and create an account for LeBonheur. Kathy Crane seconded Anne's motion. The membership voted in approval. Mary Call feels like the LeBonheur project could be eligible for a Founder's Fund award. Thank you to Catherine Sikes for pointing this opportunity out to us.

Jan Bell is 90 today. Mary Call sent Jan a video of us singing happy birthday.

Ragan Magness introduced our speaker Susan Sully. Susan is a writer and photographer. She is originally from Connecticut and attended Yale's school of Architecture. She is speaking about Southern houses and what makes a home. Ragan has books available after Susan's talk. They are \$45 by check or Venmo.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Wiener, Recording Secretary