

The Little Garden Club of Memphis  
Board Meeting  
October 2, 2019  
Memphis Botanic Garden

Attending: Linda Mallory, Michelle Dunavant, Gina White, EJ Baird, Barbara Williamson, Tempe Thompson, Anne Keesee, Natalie Latham, Paige Proctor, Lucia Crenshaw, Weetie Whittemore, Kathy Adams, Mimsie Crump, Kim Gibson, Vance Lewis, Jean Johnston, Connie Adams, Jeannie Tabor, Kate Connell, Kate Trammell, Mary Call Ford, Margaret Frasier, Katie Wiener, Liz Crosby, Katherine Dobbs, Corinne Adrian

Mary Call called the meeting to order. She asked that we approve the minutes from the last meeting. Weetie Whittemore moved that we approve and Paige Proctor seconded. The board voted to approve the minutes.

We had 2 workshops this past month to prepare us for our upcoming Flower Show. Mary Call thanked EJ Baird, Paige Proctor and Ann Prince for planning and executing the Floral Design Workshop(led by Julie Spear). Julie is a great resource for GCA Floral Design workshops. Michelle Dunavant hosted a Horticulture Workshop at her home to help us learn to prep and enter hort for the flower show. Michelle made a booklet that outlined how to enter horticulture for the show- and will print more of them for members who would like a copy. These booklets were very helpful and very well-received by our members! Kathy Adams, Vance Lewis and Ruthie Taylor attended and enjoyed the Shirley Meneice Horticulture Conference and brought back seeds(for our members) from the seed share program. Mary Call and Kate Trammell attended President's Council in New Orleans and enjoyed being with other women in our Zone.

Mary Call called on Weetie Whittemore for the Treasurer's report.

Weetie's numbers were as follows:

Administrative Fund - \$86,440.63

Community Fund - \$71,713.16

Marguerite Turner - \$1,869.12

Zone Meeting Fund - \$36,905.33

GCA Education Fund - \$19,577.47

Mimsie Crump gave the Assistant Treasurer's report:

Memorial Fund - \$22,184.64

Children's Garden - \$59,429.72

Sensory Garden - \$50,203.74

Lucia Crenshaw reminded us that October is the month to renew our memberships at MBG. We should receive an email reminder next week from the MBG. Notices will not be mailed until we are late.

Gina White and Linda Mallory have flower show schedules for our upcoming flower show, "Power of Perception". They encouraged all members to enter something from their yards-it is a great learning experience. After the judging is complete, there is a reception for LGC Members from 1-2. The doors are open to the public from 2-4. Ladies from Nashville might come and visit our show. The Federated Garden Club is having their district meeting at the MBG the same day and plan to attend. Gina said that she may need hostesses that day from 2-4 to help welcome and answer any questions the visitors may have.

Mary Call announced that our meeting tomorrow at Le Bonheur will be a very special one. Ragan is coordinating carpool. The people at Le Bonheur have worked hard to plan a great meeting for us. Natalie Latham, who is one of the hostesses of the meeting, agreed.

Kate Connell and Michelle Dunavant are excited about the Philadelphia trip. They are accepting deposits (\$500) today or you can mail them to Kate. Please get your flights.

Jean Johnston, Ways and Means, has a new greenery company for us this year. She needs orders in ASAP. She and Sue Clark are limiting the greenery to wreaths, crosses, and garland. The product comes from Washington state and North Carolina and the shipping fee is much less than the one we had to pay last year. She will have order forms available tomorrow at the meeting. Delivery should be right after Thanksgiving.

New business:

Kate Trammell has aprons. They are \$30 with the check made payable to Kate. Members were reminded to wear them for the flower show.

Tempe Thompson's is responsible for selling scarves for the 2020 GCA Annual Meeting and she is also on the Second Century Campaign committee (as the Tennessee rep). Tempe explained that GCA is fiscally responsible and very conservative with their money. This campaign is to further certain projects in the future. It will fund Partner's for Plants, the Founder's Fund, Shirley Meneice Conference, GCA Endowment, Blackburn Conservation and National Affairs Fund, Cudahy Education Fund (which helps pay for the annual meeting) and the General Scholarship Fund. As of today, Zone IX has commitments of \$652,000 from 206 donors. Zone IX is the third largest contributor thus far. Tempe would like us to make a \$15,000 donation over a 5 year period. Vance Lewis moved that we give \$15,000 to the GCA over 5 years and earmark the funds for the Founders Fund. The initial payments will be made in December and come out of the Community Fund. Several past presidents had a meeting and discussed this number. EJ Baird seconded Vance's motion. Tempe encouraged all of us to make individual commitments to this campaign as well. We will present this to the Membership at the meeting tomorrow but wait until the November Meeting to take a vote.

Vance Lewis spoke about the MBG capitol campaign. The goal is to raise 6,000,000. They intend to have a reserve fund with 3,000,000 to maintain the property and 3,000,000 in projects. They have received \$500,000 from city to expand parking. They also want to renovate the Visitors Center, the back hallway, and Hardin Hall. The Hardin Hall work would include a glass wall with doors that open onto a patio that can be tented. These improvements will help with MBG rental income. Vance would like us to contribute \$25,000 to the campaign and designate funds to the Visitors Center. Anne Keesee moved that we give the MBG \$25,000 over 3 years earmarked for the Visitors Center. Connie Adams seconded. Our first payment will be due by the end of the fiscal year (May 2020). We will present this to the Membership at the meeting tomorrow. If possible, we will vote in November. This will also come out of the Community Fund.

Mary Call is looking into investing some of our funds in CDs so that we can earn interest on our significant bank accounts.

Mary Call stated that following tomorrow's meeting we may want to consider an opportunity with Le Bonheur. They have several interesting opportunities to share with us tomorrow regarding the new green space at the hospital (see attachment). Barbara Williamson mentioned that this project could qualify for a Founders Fund award. Tempe said that it must be a large project to qualify for a Founders Fund Award. Tempe then said that Le Bonheur has grant writers who could write the proposal should we get to that point. Mary Call reminded us that the Memphis Garden Club has applied for a Founder's Fund award this year (Crosstown)

and LGC has seconded their proposal. MGC will find out next month whether or not it they are a candidate.

Mary Call shared that Katherine Dobbs is our floral design delegate for the Zone Meeting in Monroe, LA on April 15, 2020. We need one member to enter the horticulture challenge class and she asked for a volunteer.

The Plant Sale is this weekend at MBG, Sensory Garden clean up is on October 16th, the flower show is October 24th, and Flick or Treat is October 26th. Busy month!

Mary Call thanked us for coming and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Wiener, recording secretary