

Orinda Garden Club
Minutes of General Meeting
April 28, 2016
Orinda Country Club

President **Margie Murphy** called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. She said that we need a meeting just to talk. She read the motto and purpose of the OGC. The best part about our OGC is all of the wonderful members and their amazing participation.

Treasurer **Sandy Barnett** passed out copies of next year's budget and announced that **D.D. Felton** is the treasurer elect. **Sandy** moved and **Cathleen Sodos** and **D.D. Felton** seconded and the Administrative budget passed as presented. Regarding the Contribution Budget, the monies from the Garden Tour last year are ear marked for the Median project. **Sandy** moved and Kristen Whitsett seconded and the Contribution Budget passed. **Sandy** then presented the Donations to Institutions which will increase for next year. **Carole Wolfman** suggested we add a donation to Save the Bay in honor of the 1/20/16 passing of Sylvia McGaughlin. **June Cunningham** asked about the Ruth Bancroft Garden and **Sandy** said she would add back \$250 as a donation. It was suggested that Penny Pines be paid out of the funds so that on one has to do this monthly and count the change; however, June Cunningham spoke up and wanted to do that task for next year. **Sandy** moved and **Connie Leach** seconded and the \$2,850 non profit donation budget passed.

Margie passed around a sign up to host board meetings next year. **Yoni Mayeri** moved and **Barbara Boster** seconded and the minutes of the March meeting were approved as e-mailed.

Corresponding Secretary **Tina Locke** announced that **Jane Ryan** has been approved for a six month leave of absence.

Nita Roethe thanked everyone who participated in the 4/23/16 Orinda in Action Day and especially **Janet Pease** with balloons, **Sylvia Carter** with water and **Carole Amstutz** with her husband. One of the by standers remarked that we were the hardest working group. **Margie** announced that **Louise** found her lost golf ball in the triangle. Leaks will be fixed which may have been caused by P.G. & E. who has approved two trees as choices for replanting. **Nita** will host a September scarecrow making projecty in honor of Marty DeJonghe. She asked us to please bring her plastic bags to stuff the scarecrows. From the mayor's meeting she announced a 5/4/16 forum on road repairs. She announced Measure AA. She said a holocaust survivor spoke to Miramonte students. The girls' basketball team placed second in the State with Sabrina leading the scoring.

Laurie Smith reported that there were 19 participants at Mike's Bees which was held at **Sandra Holland's**, and 14 participants in the tour of the Sacramento Cemetery. She thanked **Sue Berger Andersen** for the tour AND the tomato plants that she gave to everyone. There will be an heirloom roses sale in El

Cerrito on 5/15/16. The next meeting of Horticulture will be 5/10/16 at Orchard Nursery at 10:00 am.

Cathleen Sodos complimented our 2015-2016 new members. **Gail Emmons** will again do a flower arranging workshop for them and they will go to a Piedmont Garden Tour. Three ladies were offered membership for next year: two will defer and Gwen Manfrin accepted for this upcoming year.

Laura Sawczuk announced that pay pal may be used to pay your dues as well as check or cash. Actives: \$290 (\$297 with pay pal,) Associates/Sustainers: \$170, and new members \$410. Deadline for dues is 5/31/16 to **Laura**.

Linda Thompson and **Kristen Whitsett** reported on their trip to Washington D.C. to attend the NAL conference 2/22/16-2/25/16 and thanked the club for sending them. There were 280 GCA members and 30 speakers. There is an article on the GCA website. The financial impact of global warming, climate change, preventative measures, water quality, National Parks, Measure AA, Student Conservation Association were some of the topics. Look for their article in the FMNs newsletter.

Jan Formanek passed around a clipboard for everyone to make changes to the roster. She pointed out the issue that small binders no longer are available in green.

Phoebe Kahl showed photos from Bouquets to Art at the de Young Museum. She and **Diana Kennedy**, **Heather Dunne** and **Mari Tschenko**, and first time exhibitors **Chris Stoneberg** and **Yoni Mayeri** represented OGC. **Dona Snow** and **Yoni** assisted. **Phoebe** said that any organic material needed to be inspected. **Mari** added that she really enjoys working with **Heather** and the other floral designers. **Yoni** said that it's a very creative response to art.

Linda Thompson said that there is a Botanist that assists at Partners 4 Plants. Piedmont GC and OGC have asked for a grant from GCA to help pay for the Botanist. She thanked everyone who has worked on Partners 4 Plants ; it's really made a difference.

Carole Wolfman reported from the six garden club Bay Visions that there may be a meeting next Jan. or Feb. at the Bay Model in Sausalito. Measure AA will be on the June ballot. If passed it will levy a parcel tax of \$12 per year to restore tidal marches, build Bay trails etc. She passed out and collected ballots which showed an overwhelming support for Measure AA from members. **Kristen** noted that Measure AA is consistent with our OGC purpose. She encouraged us to vote for Measure AA.

Margene Stahle asked us to sign up to bring flowers to the Orinda Library. Two arrangements are to be delivered to the library on Mondays.

Vanessa Crews gave everyone an invitation to the 4/30/16 UC Botanical Garden

Plant sale and offered 4 guest passes. **Suanne Inman** sold tickets to the Moraga Juniors "Beyond the Garden Wall" garden tour for 4/30/16. **Gail Emmons** who is chairing the 2018 GCA flower show asked members' husbands to make 7 wooden cubbies.

Yoni Mayeri was accepted as a GCA photography judge.

Margie said that at the 5/26/16 general meeting at Sue Berger-Andersen's house, there will be prizes for the best gardening outfits. Please wear your gardening outfits! Don't forget to shuttle; instructions to follow.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:16.

Pamela Croce Goode introduced our speaker: Michael Kabler from Oaktown Bloom. He used colored vases with armature glued onto them. He used curly willow instead of a frog. He always uses odd numbers of stems and has them start from the same spot. He puts a drop of bleach to extend floral life into the water and changes the water everyday.

The raffle winners included: **Devon Sherwood, Barbara Boster, Margie Murphy, Yoni Mayeri, Linda Thompson, Anita Hughes, Tina Locke and Laurie Smith.**

The meeting was re-adjourned at 12:10.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Diracles
OGC Recording Secretary

Upcoming dates:

5/10/16 10:00 am: Hanging Baskets with edibles at Orchard Nursery

5/19/16 Board Meeting at **Shari's**