

Orinda Garden Club
General Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 15, 2017
Claremont Country Club
9:30 am social, 10 am Speaker
11:05 am Meeting

Welcome and President's Message by Margie Murphy: Margie welcomed OGC's members, and commented on what a wonderful presentation Victoria Kastner, historian at the Hearst Castle, gave jointly to both the OGC and Piedmont Garden Clubs. Margie thanked the OGC members who gave floral arranging, horticultural and photography demonstrations at the January General Meeting. Judy Gray moved that the January 2017 General Meeting Minutes be approved as emailed, and Tina Locke seconded.

Treasurer's Report by DD Felton-She informed the group that Orinda Country Club will be charging OGC for space rental going forward, \$200 for each of our meetings there, and \$2500 for renting the entire main floor for holiday events. As she is reviewing our financials, making corrections and adjustments, there will be a delay in posting the statement on our website.

Nominating Committee report was given by Jane Wisner, for Janet Riley. Jane reported that the board approved the slate for next year, effective July 1:

Cathleen Sodos-President

Julie O'Melveny-Vice President, Membership

Louise Diracles moved that the membership vote on the slate above, and DD Felton seconded. The membership voted approval of the above slate for next year.

Bouquets-Margie Murphy reported that this month's bouquets meeting was at her house, and that there was an excellent turnout.

Conservation-Kirsten Whitsett informed the membership that there were 23 attendees at the movie "Just Eat It", and that there are 2 more dates for Partners For Plants. She encouraged everyone to attend at least one of the dates. There will be a trip to the GCA Redwood Grove 6/20-22, and she encouraged members to sign up.

Beautification-Nita Roethe reported that the daffodils are blooming at the off ramp, and will be weeded. She will arrange for the shrubs to be pruned lower at the triangle garden, for better traffic visibility. Orinda In Action will take place on April 22.

Program-Catherine Dunne announced that Michael Stehr will be our speaker in March, with Mini Luncheons to follow.

Fundraising-Louise and Marlene encouraged everyone who has not yet done so, to send their \$200 contribution towards the garden tour fundraiser to send their checks to **Mary Ellen Schneider**. They report that members are being very helpful in volunteering to help at the garden tour. They thanked **Jane Zuercher** for giving the tour a generous donation, as well as Melanie Snow, a local realtor. Nina McLemore will be donating a silent auction item. They thanked **Jean Rowe** for doing an excellent job managing the website. **Laura Sawczuk** reported that the succulent propagation workshop went very well. She thanked **Shari Bashin-Sullivan** and her husband for their help, as well as all participants in the workshop. **Joyce Nelson** has kindly offered to take care of the succulents until the sale at the garden tour.

Nita Roethe described a fundraising idea of **Barb Boster's** to the membership. Board members have voted their approval of each voting board member donating a nice (\$30) bottle of wine, and the collection being sold by lottery. All proceeds will go toward the garden tour. Final details are being decided.

Change in Status-Sandra Holland reported that the following active members will be changing to associate membership: **Dena Raffel, Kathy French, Pamela Stefan, Nath Schmicker, Jane Ryan, Ann Seclow, and Kris Rawson. Jenifer Brunk and Judy Gray** will transition from active to sustaining members.

New Member Deadline-Cathleen Sodos informed the group that the deadline to submit New Member applications is March 15. She reported that she and **Margie Murphy** attended the President's Council in Santa Barbara, and that **Vanessa Crews** received a Freeman Medal Honorable Mention. **Cathleen** will be sending out an email questionnaire about job preferences for next year. She also encouraged members to sign up for Mini Luncheons.

Bay Visions-Pam Wiley reported that she, **Judy Shallat, Kirsten Whitsett, Anita Hughes** will be going to the Bay Visions meeting in Tiburon.

Rose Pruning-Jean Rowe explained that because of our heavy rainfall this winter a lot of pruning dates scheduled have had to be cancelled. She hopes pruning can be done at Heather Farms next Wednesday, February 22, and encouraged members to participate.

New Business: none.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Schneider,
Recording Secretary

