

August 15, 2022
RGC Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Lancaster Community Library

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Present:

Debbie Burgess, President
Cathie Elliott, 1st Vice President
Carol Clark, 2nd Vice President
Susan Edmonds, Hostess Chair
Deborah Brooks, Membership Chair
Helen Johnson, Parliamentarian
Ginni Baron, Historian
Mary Hutyra, Past President

Absent:

Mary Ann McKay, Youth Chair
Margie Redlin, Corresponding Secretary
Bonnie Schaschek, Treasurer
Trisha Tetlow, Recording Secretary

Budget: The president passed around copies of the recent budget saying that the club didn't, as yet have an approved budget and needed to get that done. Upon review of the budget figures, Carol Clark felt the amount allowed for the website was too low. The website budget did not appear to take into account the fees for the website software and maintaining the Domain Name. Susan Edmonds commented that supplies of paper products and other items used for lunches would need to be augmented and felt an additional \$25 should be added to that budget number.

Decision: The board decided to wait to make any changes in the budget until input from the Treasurer could be obtained. In the meantime, Carol was asked to get information on the amount that would be required to cover the website fees.

Meeting Months: The president asked the group to consider whether or not a change in RGC's meeting months to meet in July and August rather than January and February should be made. The past president reported she had had some complaints about the current schedule and felt that at least one member resigned their membership over the change. It was also noted a plus for changing the meetings was that gardens provide more items for exhibit in the summer months than in winter. One member asked if one of the reasons the change in the meeting schedule was made was due to coordinating RGC's budget filing with other clubs. No one was sure but felt allowances could be made if the group wanted to return to RGC's former meeting schedule.

Decision: The President will bring the matter up to the membership as the earliest opportunity to get the majority opinion.

Improving Communications: The Membership Chair was concerned she wasn't being notified when changes in membership occurred. In particular members who resign don't always send the resignation in writing as the By-Laws require and that's a problem. Board members promised to do better in keeping the Membership Chair informed. The President will remind members about the need to confirm resignations in writing. Additionally, members will be reminded to contact the Membership Chair and not other board members about resigning or any other membership questions.

The Board discussed whether or not Emeritus members were being sent communications. It was ascertained that all but 3 Emeritus members have email and are sent emails when membership mailings are made. The Membership Chair will call those non-email members to make sure they are aware of club activities.

Sunflower Comm. Chair: Margie Redlin has been the Sunflower Chair sending get well cards and other appropriate communications to members and/or member families as necessary. She no longer feels she can do this job as it should be done and has resigned it. Deborah Brooks, Membership Chair, has taken on this responsibility.

Board Term: The past board served an extra year in addition to their two-year term due to Covid challenges. The new board was elected last June to serve one year. To get in sync with other clubs as well as National, elections for a new board would be held and a new board installed in June, 2023. To accomplish this, the Bylaws state a Nominating Committee needs to be established at the September, 2022 meeting. If the current board agreed to serve a second year, with membership approval, the election process wouldn't be required next year.

Decision: The consensus seemed to be the new board isn't sure about offering to extend a year and needs time to think about it. The President will talk it over with other members.

Adjusting Activities for Fewer Volunteers: Carol Clark who oversees the Communications Committee which includes the Yearbook, mentioned the challenges in getting things done with fewer members. She noted changes to reduce paperwork requirements would be helpful. If the club suspended the monthly design themes and just let folks do their own thing, that would help in reducing paperwork and work requirements on volunteers. Additionally, no one has volunteered to chair the Artistic Design Committee. The suggested change would solve that problem.

Decision: The board unanimously adopted the suggestion to eliminate monthly design themes for Artistic Design exhibits. The guideline for members will be to do designs that reflect the month they're working in.

Yearbook: The committee is working on updates and expects to have new pages ready in September. New books will go to new members ONLY. All others will need to print what they need from the website.

Volunteers: Carol Clark volunteered to head up the Christmas lunch at the ICYC. Mary Hutyra will continue to take care of the Blue Star Memorial Garden. The president is looking for a co-chair for the Free Health Clinic. Interested members should contact Debbie Burgess.

Future Meetings:

September: Fall Festival and Homecoming. This event will feature Horticulture and Artistic Design Exhibits. Exhibits should be set and in place ready to go at 11:30 a.m. The doors will open at 12:00 p.m.

with a short business meeting starting promptly at 12:30 p.m. Information on when and where to deliver yard sale items will be sent by e-mail.

October: Tides Inn Shoreline Tour. A short business meeting will be held at Grace Church prior to the Shoreline Tour. Members should meet at Grace Church no later than 12:00 noon and bring a lunch (including beverage with them. At 12:45 p.m., members will carpool to Tides Inn for the tour.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.