

Lake Placid Garden Club Board meeting, March 4, 2025

These members were present – Sandy Rosch, Donna Ferchen Sue Rood, Doris Rohner, Mary Meisenheimer, Vicki Maxwell, Fran Bomberger, Jennifer Marsh, Sherill Trevino, Sally Kinsey, Stephanie Moreo, Robin Shear, Sharon Diaz, Marcia Price, Ray Adelman, Nick Price, Jeannie Dietl, Jan Vedernjak, Laura Krumm and Joyce Miles.

The meeting was held at the Lake Placid Masonic Temple.

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 by President Sandy Rosch.

Vicki Maxwell was praised for her leadership in the recent LPGC Plant Sale. She was given a gift by President Rosch.

Treasurer Donna Ferchen gave the Financial Report. Total monetary assets as of the end of February were \$52,049.34. It was noted that the Plant Sale made a profit of \$1,055.

A donation of \$50 has been sent to St Jude's Children's Hospital in honor of recently deceased member Shirley Puzey.

All LPGC tangible assets are to be labeled, "Property of Lake Placid Garden Club." The serial and/or asset numbers along with receipts including the price and date of purchase should be filed with the treasurer.

The proposed 2025-56 budget has been prepared and distributed to the board for perusal. It will be presented to the club at the March General meeting and will be voted on at the April meeting.

A monthly rental charge has not yet been determined by the Lake Placid Government Center. \$50 monthly has been estimated in the proposed budget.

Members have a March 15 deadline to make changes/additions.

President-elect Doris Rohner has revived a LPGC website. Although the first year will be free, the subsequent annual cost will be \$100.

Sue Rood reported that there are 30 leftover 2024-25 yearbooks. She proposes not ordering as many for next year.

Raising the member dues was suggested.

There is a new membership form to be filled out at the time of membership renewal. Dues are now due; Deb Gunderlock is collecting the money.

The club gives the Keep Lake Placid Beautiful \$300 each year. There was a question about how that money is used and whether we should continue to contribute. The committee is currently changing plans so the club will wait and see.

The plaque naming LPGC as the sponsor of the Main Street Garden has been missing. After many phone calls by President Rosch, the plaque was located and will be reinstalled. The existing markers in that garden are in need of cleaning.

Members are reminded to park in the back or at the sides of the Government Center, leaving room for those having business inside. Those needing Handicap parking may still use those spaces.

Corresponding Secretary Laura Krumm reported that member Wynelle Conley made a monetary contribution to the club via the Plant Sale.

District FFGC President Susan Lawson will report on our club activities at the state convention. No members from this club plan to attend.

Members are reminded to check their listing in the current yearbook. Changes/additions should be given to Sue Rood.

Former member Fran Rolston will be renewing her membership as a returning member.

The club will not be giving any "Courtesy Memberships."

The "Welcome Table" has been a success. It has been suggested that the club form a "New Member Orientation Committee." Creating an information folder has also been suggested.

The March 12 meeting will be officiated by Sharon Diaz.

Lunch will be a pulled pork sandwich from Hartzell's.

Members are urged to dress for St Patrick's Day.

Carol Lambert will present the horticulture segment, speaking about longevity spinach.

There will be a different speaker. Maria Hagg from the Lake Placid Historical Society will present a program about the history of Lake Placid.

Vicki Maxwell will do the centerpieces.

The Opportunity Table will again feature craft and other items in addition to plants.

Getting members to stop talking among themselves in order to listen and pay attention at meetings has been a continuing problem.

The Little Acorn Project will meet March 20 at Royce Ranch.

Donna Ferchen reported for Civic Beautification. The Legion Garden looks good. Mulch has helped keep the weeds down.

Jennifer Marsh told members that the Historical Society has shown interest in a butterfly garden and has asked that the LPGC to plan, plant and maintain it. No plans have yet been put in place.

Garden Therapy will take place at the Lake Placid Health and Rehabilitation Center March 11 at 10:00, members meeting at 9:30. Flowers and green are always welcome additions.

The club is in need of a member who will do publicity.

Robin Shear, Chairman of the 2025 Holiday Home and Garden Tour, reports needing two more homes. The first committee meeting will be held after the April General Meeting.

Nick Price, Chairman of Manna Ministries collections, reminded members that there will be an Easter collection for Manna in April.

Stephanie Moreo, Scholarship Committee Chairman, reported 15 applications have been received including one from a home-schooled student.

The Awards Ceremony will be April 14 at 6:00 at the High School.

LPGC contributes to Project Graduation; the club has not yet received word on that project.

One factor in the declining interest in Camp Wekiva is that the application process is "brutal."

\$400 will be sent to the 4-H camp, Camp Cloverleaf, to sponsor a camper.

Nick Price, Chairman of Trips and Tours, reported that 40 seats have been sold for the April 1 trip to Fort Myers to tour the Edison Ford Winter Garden and Museum. There are 16 vacancies which will likely be filled by Woman's Club members and neighboring Garden Clubs members.

Laura Krumm reported on the Library plants.

Sharon Diaz reported on the February 20 Basket Making workshop conducted by Connie Adam. Those who participated reported that it was fun and rewarding.

LPGC's application has been sent for the Nell Coe Award.

The March 1 Plant Sale was a big success. Suggestions for the next plant sale include -

Holding the sale later than the first Saturday of March.

Adding a bake sale, which was done last year, can bump up the profit. Adding crafts might be good too. More "staff" would be needed.

We need more "security." Customers left without paying for their plants this year. They also switched tags in order to get plants cheaper. Ideas - more eyes on customers, marking plants that have been paid for.

Offering a \$1 or \$2 table for some donated plants would save time, increase interest.

The Membership Appreciation Picnic will be held March 29 at the Sun N Lakers Community Center. The club will provide fried chicken and ice cream sundaes. Members should sign up to attend. Cathy Sockwell will be managing the food sign up. Ray Adelman will provide the music.

Some members have complained that the Board voted to purchase a bench for the Masonic Lodge Postcard Park rather than presenting the issue to the club for a vote. The Board acted within their stated duties according to Roberts Rules of Order.

Marcia Price, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the proposed slate of officers for the 2025-56 year.

President, Doris Rohner

Co-First Vice Presidents, Stephanie Moreo and Monica Griffith

Co-Second Vice Presidents, Robin Shear, Jan Vedernjak and Karen Denning

Recording Secretary, Joyce Miles

Co-Corresponding Secretary, Laura Krumm and Mary Meisenheimer

Co-Treasurers, Donna Ferchen, Sherill Trevino (specializing in the HH&GT) and Sandy Rosch

There is still a need for a Co-Recording Secretary and someone to do publicity

Marcia Price and Jeannie Dietl have paired up to initiate a Plant Study Committee.

Jan Vedernjak shared that the "Forget me Not" nursery in Sebring has interesting plants and is worth a visit.

Doris Roher shared ideas she has for her upcoming term as President. She plans to form a new "social Media Committee" She plans a newsletter which will include some fun items. She is putting together a new, soon to be published website, part of which will be private for LPGC members only.

Lunches were again discussed. Current Hostess Committee Co-Chairmen Jennifer Marsh and Pat Reiser suggested continuing catered lunches in April and May. Lunches for the 2025-56 year will be determined by next year's board.

There may be a combination of catered lunches and brown bag lunches. Holidays generally call for a special catered lunch.

Member provided lunches (soup/sandwich/desert and salad/desert) will likely continue.

Setting up tables and chairs for meeting was discussed. At the Government Center, usually the janitor does so but that is not guaranteed. The club will probably need to pay someone to do that.

There were suggestions about changing the meeting venue.

The ultimate decision will lie with the 2025-26 Board.

The District IX FFGC Spring Meeting will be held in Fort Myers May 21. The call letter will go out soon.

After discussion led by Scholarship Chairman Stephanie Moreo, Donna Ferchen moved the club allocate an additional \$2000 to the Scholarship Committee for use this club year. Frab Bomberger seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion passed with an affirmative vote of hands. The club had previously voted that the Scholarship Committee could determine the number of scholarships and amount of each scholarship they award.

Marcia Price told members about the Sebring Garden Club's March 20 Card Party. The cost is \$15; lunch is included. The hours are 10-3.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Miles

Recording Secretary

