**Lake of the Woods Garden Club**

**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

**April 23, 2018**

**The Woods Center**

**Call to Order—**President Carolyn Graham called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM and Linda Ticomb read the thought for the day. In attendance were: Lynn Cryblskey, Debbie Hein, Joy Poole, Mary Sims, Sonni Beranek, Doris Earhart, Jan Davis, Karen Kovarik, Joan Greene, Linda Ticomb, Carolyn Graham, Jennifer Ciskanik, Loretta LaTerra, Shellee Williams, Gaylen Smoak and Teresa Gregson. A quorum was present.

Carolyn Graham made a special point of recognizing Loretta LaTerra for the tremendous job she continually does for the Club.

Carolyn brought to the attention of the Board a rumor she had been made aware of regarding the blue spruce that the Club had recently planted in honor of Rod Ahlfield during the Club’s Arbor Day celebration. The rumor was that this new tree was going to take the place of the existing blue spruce that LOW currently uses to light at Christmas. Carolyn immediately squashed this rumor by tracking down its origin. Should anyone be asked, there is absolutely no truth to this rumor and no desire on the part of the LOW Garden Club to use this new tree in that way.

**Officers’ Reports—**

**1st VP Membership—**Linda Ticomb said the club now has 101 members, 99 of whom are paid members and two of whom are honorary. With the new membership year beginning at the end of May, there are 42 current members that have paid their dues for the new year. Members are encouraged to get their dues in by May 15th.

**Recording Secretary**—Teresa Gregson said she had emailed out the minutes of the last meeting and had received no corrections but encouraged members to be sure and review them once more.

**Corresponding Secretary**—Shellee Williams said she had sent a sympathy card to the family of Ed Harn who had passed away.

**Treasurer’s Report**—Loretta LaTerra said there is $4,157.96 in the checking account.

**Assistant Treasurer**—No report.

**2nd VP Programs**—Gaylen Smoak gave a report on the House and Garden Tour. She said that the Lord’s had dropped out of the tour due to the recent passing of a relative. The Tour will now have 4 homes and 5 gardens and the map of the Tour will be adjusted to reflect this change. A brief meeting of the House and Gardens Tour followed the Board meeting.

**Parliamentarian**—No report.

**Nominating Committee**—No report.

**Past President**—No report.

**Standing Committee Chairpersons**

 **Awards & Penny Pines**— Joy gave an account of the awards that the LOW Garden Club received at the district and the state levels. They will be given out at the next general membership meeting to the various individuals who spearheaded the projects.  They are recorded with Scrapbook Chair, Doris Earhart.  Joy also recognized Joan Greene for helping to co-chair the centerpiece committee at the VFGC State Convention.  Jennifer Ciskanik was also recognized for making the unique hyper tufi centerpiece containers for the Convention.

 **Education—**No report.

 **Scrapbook/Historian—** No report.

 **Hostesses—**No report.

**Landscape/Conservation—** Jan Davis reported that she had been in touch with the Rapidan Garden Club (Orange, VA). This club shares a Blue Star Memorial Garden with our club. Jan was told that the garden is now in need of some significant work. The Rapidan Club obtained an estimate to do all the clean-up work that is necessary—which included removal of diseased trees—and the tally was $1705.54. The Rapidan Club applied for and has since received a $1000 grant towards the cost of this work and now the remaining amount that needs to be funded before the work can proceed is $705.54. It was noted that the LOW Garden Club had worked hand-in-hand with the Rapidan Club two years ago on this garden and that our name is currently on a plaque in the garden. The Rapidan Garden Club is now asking us to consider sharing with them the remaining cost of $705.54 for the garden’s clean up. The Board passed a motion to fund this request with $352.77. Treasurer Loretta LaTerra will sweep the corners of programming money that was budgeted for this year but has not been used. As the current budget year for the Club is almost over, the Board passed the motion unanimously.

 **Newsletter—**Jennifer Ciskanik said that she was looking for someone to profile in the June newsletter. She also said that she planned to continue writing newsletters into the summer months.

 **Photographer—**No report.

 **Publicity—**Karen Kovarik reported that the LOW Currents had a publicity deadline of this afternoon for the LOW House and Garden Tour press release. She indicated that she needed additional information on the houses before she could provide anything to the Current Staff. She was given a preliminary draft of the Tour brochure to use as necessary.

**Ways and Means—**Lynn Cryblskey said that the Ways and Means Committee had discussed having the Garden Guru for a 2019 money-making program. Lynn has spoken with the Guru (Kent Russell) a garden expert and entertaining presenter and said that he is supposed to be very funny, highly respected and quite in demand. This program is best done in early spring when people are thinking about adding plant material to their gardens as he typically brings about $2000 in plants to sell to those in attendance. The idea is that the Club would sell tickets to and sponsorships for his program. Other garden clubs would be invited. His speaking fee is $900 and comes with a $300 deposit that is required before he can be booked. There was a motion to support this initiative and explore Mr. Russell’s availability for the first Saturday in May (May 4th of 2019) with an alternative date being the last Saturday in April (April 27th of 2019). The motion passed unanimously. Lynn was given authority to request a $300 check from Club Treasurer, Loretta LaTerra should Mr. Russell be available on either of our preferred dates. (Date ended up being moved to May 11, 2019).

**Yearbook—**No report.

**Ongoing Business—**

**New Business—Special Committee—**President Carolyn Graham said that she was going to launch a new committee on Technology in order to review the technology needs our club will have over the next 3-5 years. She noted that technology is ever changing and that the club needs to acknowledge this fact. She is looking for approximately 5 people to work on this committee and will announce its formation at the next general meeting. Any one interested in serving should contact Carolyn.

**Unfinished Business—**

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at noon. An impromptu House and Garden Tour Committee followed the Board meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Gregson

Recording Secretary