**Lake of the Woods Garden Club**

**Board of Directors Meeting**

**May 21, 2018**

**Call to Order—**President Carolyn Graham called the meeting to order at 10:10 and Linda Ticomb gave the inspiration seeking strength for all of us to get through the Flower Show and House & Garden Tour. In attendance were: Joan Greene, Jan Davis, Linda Ticomb, Sonni Beranek, Deborah Kratzer, Carolyn Graham, Doris Earhart, Shellee Williams, Loretta LaTerra, Gaylen Smoak, Joy Poole, Mary Sims, Lynn Cryblskey and Teresa Gregson. A quorum was present.

Carolyn then went through the agenda asking board members to share any concerns they have about any garden club issue. Each issue was initially given three minutes of discussion. Some issues struck a chord with the Board and needed additional time.

**Linda Ticomb** shared her concern for the publicity surrounding the House & Garden Tour. There was much discussion about her concern and ultimately Board members took flyers and offered to help distribute them to local merchants. Since there was nothing written in the last issue of the LOW Currents, it was decided there should be something written in the upcoming issue.

**Teresa Gregson** suggested that the availability of the Tour tickets and the overall issue of publicity for the Tour are two key items that could be addressed in the proposed LOW Garden Club Technology Committee. President Graham agreed and asked Teresa chair of the new committee.

**Shellee Williams** also expressed concern regarding the lack of publicity surrounding the Tour. Gaylen Smoak wondered if the Wine Nights at the LOW Club House might give the Club an opportunity to sell additional tickets and she offered to contact Ryan for permission. Assuming we can do so, Shelly and Loretta will take this Thursday from 5-7 PM and Sonni Beranek and Jan Davis will take next Thursday from 5-7 PM.

**Loretta LaTerra** expressed concern for the number of members that had not rejoined the Club—a new membership year begins in June. To date there are only 70 members that have paid their dues for next year. It was decided that Loretta would divvy up the names of those who had not rejoined and reach out to several Board members who would help her contact those who had not paid their dues for 2019 and encourage them to do so.

**Gaylen Smoak** addressed her concern for the LOW Club House garden and stressed the need to clean it up.

**Jan Davis** expressed an overall concern about how the House & Garden Tour is coming along and she and Mary Sims expressed concern about the top of a tree and several major sized limbs that have fallen in front of the Memorial Garden. Mary has already been in contact with LOW Maintenance and they have added the removal of these downed limbs to their list of things that must be done, however, the rain has added substantially to their work while also putting them behind schedule. Several members volunteered their husbands and their vehicles to aid in the removal of the downed branches.

**Joy Poole** expressed concern for the horticultural portion of the Flower Show and indicated she still needs two people to participate. Joy will be hosting two meetings; May 23rd at 10 AM and May 24th at 9:30 AM to discuss the elements necessary to qualify for line mass and mass flower arrangements.

**Sonni Beranek** also expressed concern about how we were reaching out to the community regarding the Tour.

**Lynn Cryblskey** indicated she thought the Club’s general meetings felt rushed and indicated it might be hard for some members to follow what the Board is doing. A healthy discussion regarding the timing of the meetings, the agendas and minutes of those meetings, refreshment breaks and programs ensued. The Board ultimately recommended that for the next six months, meetings stick to the following time frame:

**12:30 PM**--The doors open and members can check in, grab a chair and visit with one another

**1 PM**—Carolyn gavels the meeting to start

**2-2:15 PM**—The refreshment break takes place

**2:15 PM**--The program begins

**3 PM**--Gaylen will announce at each meeting that the program will continue but that members who need to leave may do so.

**The following additional changes were discussed and recommended**:

* The president needs to more strictly limit side discussions in our meetings so that members may better follow what is taking place.
* The refreshment tables should be moved farther away from the windows allowing members the ability to access both sides of the tables and thereby reducing their time in line.
* The agendas and minutes need to be made available to the general members and they will now be sent to Shellee Williams for distribution.
* Each general membership meeting should have an announcement period on the agenda and members from the floor should be given an opportunity to raise an issue they believe is important.
* More needs to be done to involve new members, get them interested in events and retain them.
* A list of the names of hostesses for each meeting needs to be given to Carolyn at the start of the meeting.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Gregson

Recording Secretary