BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023
Forest Glen Golf and Country Club Community Center

Richard Davenport called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

In attendance were Richard Davenport, Rae Jean Walker, Marie Harris, David Orr, Carolyn Booker, Lanelle Bishop, Linda Van Blerkom, Sue Roehl, Stu Rubin, Chuck Ferber and Karen Davenport.

1. Meeting Minutes from October 17, 2023 were reviewed. Lanelle Bishop moved to approve the Minutes, Carolyn Booker seconded and the motion passed.
2. Treasurer David Orr reported we have $23,233.40 in our checking account and $36,233.10 in CD's. He also advised the Board that we have three CD's that will be maturing soon.
3. Membership Chair Marie Harris reported we have 202 members. Sixteen new members were recruited at the Master Gardener Lawn and Garden Show and two people signed up for our 2024 Culture Class. Marie reviewed the how to's and great results making Naples Orchid Society visible at this function.
4. Second Vice President Lanelle Bishop discussed room setup in Moss Hall and budget for the Holiday Party December 7, 2023. Lanelle moved that we approve a budget of $700.00 for meats, drinks and condiments for the potluck food, Stu Rubin seconded and the motion passed. Lanelle also advised that Nancy Ferber would be joining her in playing the piano during the party.
5. Selling Raffle tickets for the Orchid Baskets was discussed. Rae Jean Walker will be in charge of the raffle.
6. Bob Castonguay will design certificates for the top three ribbon winners, which will be presented at the Holiday Party, along with the monetary award.
7. Culture Class: David Orr and Marie Harris discussed the coordination needed between them. Stu Rubin and Jim Rawson discussed the possibility of giving Naples Botanical Garden members a reduced tuition rate. There will be continued discussion regarding this issue.
8. First Vice President Stu Rubin advised the Board that Elaine Gates will be our January Speaker and that her material budget will be $200.00. She will demonstrate how to prepare cut flower and container exhibits for the 2024 Show. Stu advised that there are ongoing Show negotiation meetings with the Garden re our Memorandum of Understanding.
9. Plant Table Rules: Karen Davenport discussed the current ribbon rating system of 3 points for a blue ribbon, 2 points for a red ribbon, 1 point for a white ribbon and 3 points for a gold ribbon. It was proposed that Gold Ribbons would receive 4 points for the 2023-year and 5 points beginning in 2024. The Board agreed unanimously.
10. By-Laws: Director Chuck Ferber advised the Board that there would be a committee meeting on Saturday, December 9 at 10:00 to review and revise the By-Laws. Chuck also advised the Board that each Board member should sign a "Conflict Of Interest Affidavit" each year. This is not addressed in the By-Laws but will be considered during the revisions.
11. Jim Rawson discussed the upcoming AOS Show Training Session to be held at Flamingo Gardens on Saturday, November 18. A group of six people from the Board will attend.
12. Newsletter Publisher/Editor Bob Castonguay discussed the length of our current Newsletter. He discussed ways to shorten it by using hyperlinks.
13. Richard Davenport updated the Board about the continued negotiations with the Garden for the Memorandum of Understanding. As of the Board meeting, it had not been finalized.
14. Stu Rubin discussed the need for sponsors for our 2024 Show and asked each Board member to obtain at least one sponsor. He advised that the Garden District would be helping with our Jubilee decorations for the Show.

15. Stu Rubin discussed vendor fees for the 2024 Show. It was agreed that the fee would be raised from $750.00 to $800.00 per vendor. He also advised the Board that after discussions with two new possible vendors, the sixth plant vendor would be Soroa Orchids from Homestead.
16. The next Board meeting will be December 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Forest Glen Golf and Country Club Community Center.
17. Rae Jean Walker moved to adjourn the meeting, Stu Rubin seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Davenport, Secretary