BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Monthly Board Minutes
April 7, 2026
Forest Glen Golf and Country Club Community Center

President Richard Davenport called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

In attendance were Marie Harris, Linda Van Blerkom, Rae Jean Walker, Richard Davenport, Karen Davenport, Arlene Cluff, Sue Roehl, Terre Moore, B.C. Loki, and guest Twyla Leigh.

1. The Minutes from March 3, 2026, were reviewed and approved.
2. Richard Davenport, in lieu of Treasurer Nancy Thorsen who was out of town, reported that he did not have exact numbers but that the checking account balance was $16,000.00-18,000.00. CD's and money market certificates amounted to approximately $40,000.00.
3. In lieu of providing just current bank balances, we anticipate a Source of Funds and Use Statement and Balance Sheet prepared by new Treasurer Nancy Thorsen. In the near future, we intend to develop an annual budget for 2027.
4. Membership: Arlene Cluff reported NOS currently has about 254 members.
5. Karen Davenport reported that the NOS Facebook page currently has 2077 Followers, up significantly in the last year.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Vice President Marie Harris distributed a proposed calendar of 2027 monthly meeting dates at Moorings Presbyterian Church. There was discussion regarding holidays, but the entire Board approved the proposed calendar with every meeting on the first Thursday of the month.
2. Marie then discussed the upcoming 2026 programs.
   - July 2: There will be a "Roundtable" format with volunteers from the Board and membership to discuss different topics. Topics will be selected from suggestions and each "Topic Chair" will move from table to table at the end of a timed discussion time, thereby meeting with several different groups before the end of the presentation.
   - August 6: The meeting is currently scheduled to be a repotting meeting, but Marie led discussions as to whether we should switch to a mounting program. Marie and Rae Jean will research types of mounts and preparation issues. Terre Moore suggested keeping track of attendees for the next couple of months so we can be prepared with enough materials. There were 77 attendees at the April meeting.
3. Marie then discussed speakers/programs for 2027 and asked for suggestions from the Board. Several members suggested possible speakers to consider.
4. Culture Class Update:
   - Chair Terre Moore reported that the classes have been quite successful, with all participants quite happy with the presentations. She mentioned that there will be some needed updates to the slide presentations for the 2027 series.
   - Terre ordered vandas from Sunbulb and said they were easy to work with and that they sent us 12 extra plants. Terre suggested that perhaps they could be a sponsor for our 2027 Show and Richard Davenport suggested we ask them if they'd like to be a Club Sponsor. To be continued. Terre also ordered cattleyas, dendrobiums, and oncidiums from Carmela Orchids in Hawaii to round out the plant giveaways.

- Terre advised the Board that the final class will be on Saturday, April 18. Karolyn Hall's presentation will be on the Catasetinae genera, followed by Richard Davenport's closing review of the entire program.
- Richard Davenport reported that he had been in communication with Sue Bottom of the St. Augustine Orchid Society and asked permission to use some of her articles on pests and diseases for our Handbook. Sue agreed and Richard will update Pests and Diseases section of the Handbook for next year.
- Everyone involved in the Culture Class Program agreed that the Forest Glen Golf and Country Club Community Center has been a great venue.

5. Karen Davenport led a discussion regarding the ease of use on the Website to view current Board of Directors names and titles. Sue Roehl advised that it is currently under "About Us / Governance." It was unanimously agreed that the Title "Governance" be revised to "Board of Directors and Officers."
6. Richard Davenport distributed a list of the current Board of Directors to attendees. He noted that we have three open positions: Publicity Director, Communications Director, and the AOS Representative position since Kris Morton recently resigned due to health issues. Richard introduced Twyla Leigh and proposed she be the next AOS Representative and a Director. Twyla accepted, Karen Davenport moved that Twyla Leigh becomes our next AOS Representative/Director, Marie Harris seconded and the Board unanimously approved.
7. There were brief discussions regarding the other two remaining open positions and their job descriptions, and this subject was tabled until further notice.
8. The next BOD meeting will be on Tuesday, May 5. Dates for the remainder of the year were reviewed.
9. Marie Harris moved to adjourn the meeting, Karen Davenport seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

SHOW COMMITTEE MEETING

Show Chair Marie Harris led an overview of the 2026 Show.

1. Marie distributed a report with the final attendance and financial results, showing lower attendance and profit from NBG.
2. Marie summarized all the things the Garden provided for us, such as advertising, signage, fire department charges, tents, tables, chairs and bottled water to name a few, which need to be taken into consideration when looking at the final figures.
3. Marie advised that our first Silent Auction, our sale of raffle tickets and sponsorships garnered around $25,000.00. These areas are where we need to concentrate on increasing revenue.
4. Marie discussed the possibility of negotiating an increase in the money we receive per paying entrant to the Garden, currently at $2.35.
5. Marie also discussed the issues we experienced such as setup, use of the storage room for our registration and judges' room, which needs more cleanup prior to our use, the need for more usable space on the lawn or perhaps in different areas of the Garden, and better coordination between NOS and the Garden.
6. Marie discussed the areas needing improvement:
   - Marie would like to obtain details from the Garden regarding their definition of "publicity" so we can cover the areas they don't.
   - We discussed the fact that attendance was lower this year and the possible reasons.
   - Parking is an ongoing issue. Could and overflow parking area be established around the new orchid culture facility at the south end of the NBG property?

- The Garden being open from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Friday is problematic. Attendance during those hours at the Garden was low. Is it worth it for them and NOS?

Marie led an overview for the 2027 Show.

1. Marie advised she has begun 2027 Show planning and will be asking for Show Theme ideas through the end of April, with an announcement at the April 9 monthly meeting and also an article to be included in the upcoming Newsletter.
2. Marie is preparing/proposing all the jobs required for a successful show. She will break down the jobs to manageable sizes and begin to enlist help from the membership.
3. Marie announced that Stu Rubin has volunteered to be the liaison with the Garden to facilitate better coordination between NOS and the Garden.

Karen Davenport moved to adjourn the meeting, Rae Jean Walker seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.
Linda Van Blerkom, Director and Karen Davenport, Secretary