

Victoria Gardens Women's Club
Board Meeting
April 1, 2024
9:00 AM

Present: Susan McMahon, Connie Hampton, Nancy Greenfield, Joan Neumann, Gail Thomas, Laura Blackburn, Patricia Martuscello

Absent: Rosie McKenna, Lynn Reim, Ruth Chrismore

Board Positions and Nominations:

- Susan led a discussion regarding filling vacant board positions for next year. Cindy Cullingford will be the Membership Director. There are many other possibilities for the other vacant positions, Charitable Action Director, Program Chair, and Branch Director but nothing definite has been decided. Susan is very confident she can fill the position.
- Lynn Reim has already planned the September meeting and secured a speaker.
- All outgoing board members have graciously decided to be on the respective committees and to assist the new board members.

Program Update:

- Susan reported that registration for the upcoming April monthly meeting has been slow.
- Joan suggested that we ask Jean Burnes to invite women from the museum to help support the speaker.
- May's monthly meeting will be a BBQ outside. All outgoing members of the board will be honored.
- The program schedule for the 2024-2025 was discussed. Do we have one a month, four a year, change times from month to month, and not always a luncheon? It was brought to the attention of the board that many members look forward to the monthly meeting to see other members. It was also brought up that we open programs with speakers to everyone in the community. Many ideas were suggested for speakers: a member from the Stetson Women's Club, coaches from various sports teams (men and women), safety from internet hacking were among the topics.

Fundraising:

- The MahJongg Tournament was very successful. Elise Saunders will lead it next year, with Bonnie assisting. The date has already been chosen, February 11, 2025.
- The Prize Patrol Committee will collect prizes to be split among the fundraisers and look for sponsors. This way restaurants, golf courses, and other businesses will be approached once. We can divide the prizes between two fundraising events.
- A discussion was held as to whether we have small fundraisers such as a walk, lottery board, or sell a product. If we did that, we could raise \$4,000 and find \$4,000 in

sponsorships to cover the cost of Casino Night. It is being disputed as to whether we can “fund raise to fund raise”.

The Spirited Event was another fund raiser that was discussed.

VGWC Charity Begins at Home:

- Members of the Victoria Gardens Women’s Club have approached Susan and voiced opinions that the club invest in project at our clubhouse. Some examples were: replacing brass door kick plates on the all the doors that have them, donate money toward a new curtain in the ballroom, paint the guard houses to match the clubhouse, donate plants for the planters, were among the suggestions brought to her. We discussed storage issues, and perhaps taking on reorganizing closets, and using space not utilized more efficiently.

Financial:

- Gail reported that because it was the first of the month there was no report. However, we have \$29,000 in the bank. \$8,000 is temporarily restricted.
- Membership renewals are coming into Laura. REN on the spreadsheet will indicate that the person has renewed their membership.
- Laura will update the membership and branch form.
- Susan will announce a reminder at the April luncheon.

Friendship Branch Update:

- A new branch is meeting next Friday, April 12th. Janice Robinson is the new leader.
- Volunteer opportunities will become available to the branches. They are no longer being assigned a specific charity.

BY LAWS:

- The additions and changes to the bylaws are being sent out to the membership for their approval.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:45 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Martuscello
Recording Secretary
Victoria Gardens Women’s Club

Friendship Branch Report
For April

Elise, Darlene and myself met with Bill and Renee to plan the Leaders Thank You event. It is a Beach Party Theme. Evites were send out.
We haven't received a contract for food yet but will now meet with the new Food and Beverage Manager this week.

The Palm Branch is meeting for the second time April 12. First time was successful getting the ladies to meet each other.

With my Director's term up in May , I have been thinking of a replacement for myself but have not found anyone yet. Working on it.....

Nancy Greenfield
Sent from my iPhone

Programming

I have already booked a speaker for the September 11 meeting (11:30 – 1:30)so that the next Director doesn't have to scurry around at the last minute. I have heard John speak and he is very entertaining and interesting and will open our year in a fun, positive way.

His name is John Brown and he is an Orlando Newscaster and author, he will be speaking about his book "Secret Orlando" A Guide to the Weird, Wonderful and Obscure.

Lynn

I created the following flyers during the month of March 2024:

Membership Drive
April 10, 2024 Museum Speaker Event
Signs for: Halifax, Neighborhood Center, COA, Family Renew, Beacon Center,
Blue Lake Elementary and Starke Elementary
Charity Sign
Mah Jongg Raffle Sign

Joan Neumann

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Charitable Actions March Report

Spotlight on Charities luncheon meeting on March 13 provided an exciting program featuring many of our current agency partners. Staff representatives from Neighborhood Center, Family Renew, Halifax Health Hospice, Blue Lake and Starke Elementary provided information at tables. Checks from fund raisers were presented to Neighborhood Center and Hospice and one was sent to COA for Meals on Wheels. A blanket knitting effort for Deland MOW participants was also spotlighted with a request for yarn donations and additional knitters.

An excellent slide show and speech were presented by Savanna Griffin on homelessness prevention and included remarks about gratitude toward VGWC for the continued support.

A Family Renew resident gave a heartfelt testimonial about her gratitude for being a participant in the transitional housing program and staff members spoke about their appreciation to VGWC for their support.

School programs were detailed by Suzie Hansen and both principals spoke about their schools and how much the volunteer efforts have helped.

Future attention will focus on continued growth of volunteer efforts in all agencies particularly schools.