

**Minutes of Friends of the Garden
September 9, 2010**

Board Members Present: George Deatz, Gail Stineburg, Don Akers, Patrick Byers, Bob Childress, Christine Chiu, Major Close, Lee Coates, Nancy Hopkins, Sharon Owings, Heather Parker-Reece, Mike Ward, Cindy Willis, George Freeman

Guests Present: Dana Tideman, Lisa Bakerink, Robin Bulstor, Scott Cunningham, Bobbi Ream, Brenda O'Connor, Patricia Bannerman, Richard and Dorothy Brunskill, Tina Gunnels, Cindy Baird, Dr. Bill Roston, J.J. Averett, Peter Longley, Marthe Close, Barbara St. Clair, Joe Kleiber, Carol Calton. Tom Lakowske, Miles Park

Minutes: Gail distributed the August minutes by email. Bob Childress moved to accept; minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Kauleen distributed the August treasurer's report by email. Bob Childress moved to accept: report was approved.

Guest Speaker: Katie Steinhoff reported on the Botanical Center and the grand opening. She reported that stakeholders will be able to use the meeting facilities at no charge. There will be a tour of the building with Jodie September 21. She passed out a draft of the schedule of events for the week of the grand opening subject to last minute changes. Mon. Oct 11 is the opening day with the ribbon cutting. Tuesday, landscape architects will talk about master planning for the gardens, and Tues. evening there will be a social event with refreshments for the stakeholders. Wednesday and Thursday, there will be a Convergence of Nature and Play Symposium. Friday will feature sustainability talks. Saturday, the Master Gardeners will give programs, and the longest paper river in the world will be created with Mimi Aumann. Sunday, there will be a concert in the afternoon. Stakeholders will have tables in the atrium and in tents during the opening. Katie needs volunteers; George needs volunteers for the FOG table.

Development Committee: There was no report.

Publicity: George Freeman reported that the newsletter is on schedule, and will be out approximately Oct. 1st. Christine reported that the FOG website update is in progress and they are asking for content.

Speakers Bureau: Lee Coates recently gave a talk at Garden Adventures; contact Lee for speakers.

Butterfly Festival: Cindy Willis reported that a recap meeting was just held the previous evening; they are looking for suggestions for next year.

Garden Committee: Bob Childress reported the following:
They are talking about a design to redo the entrance garden.
The Guardian Angel Hosta is being replaced.

The Cercis Garden is being weeded and seeded.
They are looking into working with the Lily and Iris people.
The stonework is completed in the Conifer Garden.
They are looking into acquiring a greenhouse.
They also want to acquire a laser to make our own markers.
They plan to start on the Azalea Garden this winter.

Gardens still needed to be adopted include the Iris, Lily, Cercis, and Wildflower.
George D. thanked Bob C. and Bill Roston for all their work in the conifer garden-also Lee Coates and Ruby and Ed Miller for their work. There has been lots of traffic in the garden.

Miles Park recognized Katie for doing a fine job; he appreciates the partnership with FOG and is excited about getting the facility. He thanked FOG for their contributions, and in turn George thanked the Parks Dept for all that they do.

Butterfly House: Scott Cunningham reported 9209 visitors in the Butterfly House so far this year. There were a record number of over 1100 visitors on Labor Day weekend. There are now 24 Docents; the goal next year is to be open 7 days a week. It has been discussed that a Butterfly House committee is needed. George Deatz made a motion that we create a Butterfly House Operations Group to coordinate the Butterfly House and Butterfly Festival activities. Don Akers moved to accept; all approved.

Nominating Committee: George Freeman reported that there are 5 vacancies on the board and 3 members to be reelected. The new members nominated are:

Ruth Arneson- recommended by George Deatz. Ruth called George wanting to donate to the gardens and to participate.

Cindy Baird- recommended by Bob Childress. Cindy adopted the Peony Garden and is interested in development.

Bill Roston-recommended by Bob Childress. Doc has been in from the beginning, has designed and built most of the gardens and the Butterfly House.

Dorothy Brunskill-recommended by Christine Chiu. Dorothy has been a very active Master Gardener in Stone Co. She is currently their secretary.

Tom Lakowske-recommended by Christine. Tom enabled the FOG calendar and is President of the Hosta Society. He also invited everyone to tour his garden.

The new members will be voted on at the next meeting.

As Cliff Kennedy has been a no show member, George made a motion that we remove Cliff Kennedy for the Friends of the Garden Board in accordance with article V, section 7 "Vacancies of the Bylaws". This states "Directors may be disqualified and removed from the board by a majority vote of the Board if they are absent for three or more consecutive regular meetings". George Freeman moved to accept; all approved.

The nominating committee decided to make Katie an ex officio member of the board. The proposed amendment to the Bylaws Article 5, Section 2E was reread by George Deatz and reads as follows; The Botanical Center Coordinator of Springfield-Greene Co Parks shall serve as a non-voting ex officio member of the Board of Directors. Lee Coates to accept; all approved.

George D. reported that FOG will need an office coordinator. He passed out a sign up sheet for volunteers for the grand opening. Volunteers are also needed for Gray Campbell next weekend and the Japanese Fall Festival.

Mimi Aumann will need volunteers for the River of Life installation. She has contacted 36 schools and Ben Kellner is working on the layout.

George D. is planning to meet with the Master Gardeners to help raise host plants for the Butterfly House.

George thanked Tom Lakowke for hosting the Garden Calendar.

George urged everyone to support Garden Adventures as they were flooded and lost \$10,000 in plants.

The next meeting will be Oct 14 in our new building.

Major Close moved to adjourn 0600.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Stineburg, Secretary