

## VillageWalk Garden Club Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2025 1:00 p.m.

Town Center, Cypress Room, 15291 Latitude Dr, Bonita Springs, FL 34135

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President, Jackie Fegan, at 1:10 and welcomed 45 Garden Club members and 6 guests.

**Program:** Anne Brownstone introduced the speakers, Laura Reynolds and Joanne Huskey, from the Collier County League of Women Voters, about Microplastics “Pass on Plastics”. They discussed the vast amounts of plastics in our world and what we can do to help lower this amount by remembering to Refuse (plastic straws/containers), Reduce (use alternatives), Reuse, and Recycle.

### Business Meeting:

**Secretary’s Report:** Pat Krusac stated the February Minutes were available on the website. A motion was made by Val Shaha/seconded by Jan Anderson to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

**President’s Report:** Jackie introduced and thanked the Nominating Committee and Dolores Damiano-Szafran presented the new Board of VW Garden Club with a small token gift:

Secretary	Lee Ann Podruch	Butterfinger
Treasurer	Don Blackwell	Payday
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP/Communication	Val Shaha	Crunch bar
1 <sup>st</sup> VP/Programs	Leslie Bischoff/Jackie Fegan	Reese’s Pieces
President	Cheryl Gedris	Skittles

Per Article VI, Section 4 of our Bylaws, “If there is but one candidate for each opening on the Executive Board, the Secretary shall be instructed to cast the vote.” Pat cast the vote, followed by applause.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Don Blackwell distributed the monthly financial statement for February. Revenues were \$26,900 (large donor), expenses were \$1400 with an ending balance of \$246,000 with \$237,000 earmarked for the Butterfly Garden and \$9,000 for Discretionary Club purposes. We have a healthy balance going into the next fiscal year.

### Committee Reports:

**Membership** (Eileen McDonough): We currently have 182 members. Reminder that all dues must be paid by April 30. You may pay at the Butterfly Fest, April Meeting, or drop off to her home (28812 Xenon).

**Sustainability** (Dolores Damiano-Szafran): Littoral plantings should begin in about a week with 16 areas designated. There are a few areas of erosion that will be discussed at the CDD meeting following this meeting. Some progress hinges on a quote to repair these eroded areas. There will be a booth at the Butterfly Fest explaining the Littoral Project with graphics. One Member, Bruce, is looking for more volunteers to research fixes on the irrigation system since there might be better solutions. Thanks to Anne for the speakers today and to Sue Weeks for researching more information.

**Trips and Tours** (Leslie Bischoff): IslandWalk Littoral Project Tour is April 10 with a speaker, tour, and lunch on your own. Deadline to sign up is March 23. Cost is \$10 to be donated to IslandWalk gardens.

**Butterfly Garden** (Linda Blaise): Eleven days until the Fest (March 29 from 10-2:00). Eighty people have already committed to help out but we need more volunteers for set up at 7:30 that Saturday. There will be activities for the kids, facepainting, hot dogs, Danish, ice cream truck, and much more. There are already sixty items in the silent raffle. Come for the fun and education!

**Fundraising** (Jackie Fegan): We need 3-4 volunteers for the Cook Book committee. They will decide how to proceed. We need at least twenty business days for printing turn-around. Perhaps this could be a December fundraiser - as gifts.

**Sunshine** (Kim Place): Kim reminded us to send information to her on who could use some encouragement via cards – [kplace2225@gmail.com](mailto:kplace2225@gmail.com)

**Other Business:** Jackie thanked Eileen for all of her hard work on the annual Yearbook.

**Raffle:** Two beautiful orchids (donated by JB) were won by Cheryl and Val.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting will be April 15 at 1:00 p.m.

**Adjourn:** With no other business to discuss, Val made a motion to adjourn at 2:22/seconded by Anne. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krusac

[VillageWalkGardenClub.com](http://VillageWalkGardenClub.com)