

## **VillageWalk Garden Club Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

**April 7, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Town Center, Hibiscus Room, 15291 Latitude Dr, Bonita Springs, FL 34135**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President, Jackie Fegan at 1:00 p.m.

**Quorum:** A quorum was reached with the following Executive Board officers in attendance: President, Jackie Fegan; 1<sup>st</sup> VP, JB Schuetz; 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Bernice Anzures; Treasurer, Don Blackwell; Secretary, Patricia Krusac; President-Elect, Cheryl Gedris; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President- Elect, Val Shaha; Committee Chairs, Linda Blaise.

**President's Report:** Jackie met VW new Activities Director, Dawn Gibson. VWGC dates for meetings, Holiday Party, and Plant/Bake Sale have been approved and added to the calendar. We still need confirmation of the Butterfly Fest for March 7, 2026. Kelley Short was not sure how things would progress for her fundraiser and did not attend today.

**Secretary's Report:** Motion by Don/second by Jackie to approve the March Executive Board and General Meeting minutes. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Don Blackwell distributed the monthly financial statement for March. Revenues were \$8,859, expenses were \$4,836 with an ending balance of \$250,320 with \$241,379 earmarked for the Butterfly Garden and \$8,941 for Discretionary Club purposes. The Butterfly Fest raised just under \$8,000 – a new record. Final figure after all invoices are paid will be forthcoming. Carl Cappadona will assist again this year with the Financial Review which will be presented to the board.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Programs (JB):** Our programs were well attended, educational, and enjoyable. Next week is Matthew Bagley from Bonita Bromeliads and May is our plant exchange.

**Communication (Bernice):** Many compliments on the wonderful newsletters that are informative, colorful, and appealing to the eye.

**Sustainability (Jackie for Dolores):** At the March 18 CDD meeting, it was asked if the locations of the littoral project would be on the website and would they like posters explaining the project. Awaiting follow up from the board on this. The banners at the Butterfly Fest brought many visitors to the education tents. The committee's work included sustainable products, recycling, littoral project (delayed one month – waiting for rain to begin). JB will be asking for volunteers to assist him in monitoring the lakes. He will bring a check list.

**Membership (Jackie for Eileen):** Eileen has resigned and we are looking for a volunteer to chair this committee. We thank Eileen for all her hard work through the years.

**Horticulture a & Wildlife Education (Cheryl):** no report, questions on evaluating what should be contained in this committee.

**Hospitality (Jackie for Nina):** Nina provided Jackie with a copy of the contract. Copies of all contracts should be given to the Board President for our records.

**Sunshine (Jackie for Kim):** Please notify if cards should be sent.

**Fundraising (Jackie):** The first meeting is tomorrow. There are five people interested in the Cook Book fundraiser.

**Trips and Tours (Jackie for Leslie):** Trips and Tours has had great attendance this year. Thirty-eight are going to IslandWalks' littoral project (began 4-5 years ago). Planning has begun for next year with one trip to the Everglades 10,000 Island tour already in the planning process.

**Butterfly Garden (Linda):** With almost \$8,000 raised this year, the Butterfly Gardens should be carried forward for 17 years with interest and today's current spending. Visitors mentioned a "feeling of community" at the Fest. The Education tents received many visitors. It is estimated that at least 625 were in attendance (700 scoops of ice cream were served). Many positive comments were given.

Terri Freiheit has volunteered to chair next year's Fest with Linda's guidance. It will be a committee of about nine with three already volunteering. There will be a meeting at Linda's next week for the folks who "manned a tent" to decide whether to stay the same or make changes.

The Gardens look incredible.

**Other Business:** Cheryl shared a sample brochure to join the Garden Club and asked the board to edit and come back with comments/suggestions.

It was decided that paper copies need to be kept by the Secretary of all agendas, minutes, and financial reports. Perhaps copies of contracts also – needs to be discussed.

Next week's meeting is the installation of new officers.

**Adjourn:** With no further business to discuss, JB made a motion to adjourn at 1:55/seconded by Don. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krusac

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