

VillageWalk Garden Club Meeting Minutes

November 11, 2025

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

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President, Cheryl Gedris at 1:05 PM. Cheryl welcomed 57 members and guests.

Program: Cheryl introduced the speaker, JB Schuetz, a member of the VWGC, who presented an informative program on Bougainvilleas. JB has been involved with Bougainvilleas for many years both professionally and personally.

Business Meeting:

President's Report: Cheryl announced that Don Blackwell will be relocating from VW and thus will no longer be able to serve as Treasurer. A big thank you to Don for his dedication to the financial well-being of the VWGC. Lynn Lewis will be nominated at the December VWGC Executive Board Meeting for approval as the Treasurer to complete Don's term.

Secretary's Report: The VWGC May Members Meeting Minutes were available on the website. Pat Krause made a motion to present the minutes as presented, Don Blackwell seconded. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Don Blackwell discussed the monthly financial statement from October. Revenues were \$965, expenses were \$4,562 with an ending balance of \$247,004 with \$242,633 earmarked for the Butterfly Garden and the remaining \$4,371 for discretionary VWGC purposes.

Committee Reports:

Membership (Eileen): Eileen reported that the VWGC has 167 members with an additional three members who joined today. The new members' names will be emailed to members so that the names can be added to the 2025 – 2026 Directory by the members. Thank you to Eileen for the informative Directory. 2025 – 2026 Directories were distributed during the meeting.

Hospitality (Nina): Nina updated the members on the upcoming Holiday Party, Silver Bells, which will take place December 4th. A special thank you from Nina to all of those members of the Hospitality Committee who contributed to the lovely buffet luncheon.

Butterfly Garden (Linda): The Butterfly Garden Committee has been working on brochures, signage, and other modalities to get the word out on the need for additional Butterfly Garden Volunteers. Please contact Linda if you are willing to volunteer one hour (or more!) a week to the Butterfly Gardens. Linda noted that there are now 15 varieties of butterflies within the Butterfly Garden.

Sustainability (Dolores): Dolores updated the membership on the status of the Littoral Project within VW. Thanks to the efforts of the VWGC Sustainability Committee and the CDD Board, littoral plantings have been placed in areas around VW. Dolores advised the CDD that it was important to continue to follow up on caring for the new littoral plantings. It was announced that effective January 1st, JB will be assuming the Chair of the Sustainability Committee as Dolores is leaving VW for Delaware. Appreciation was expressed to Dolores for her significant contributions to the VWGC and the Sustainability Committee.

Trips and Tours (Linda Musick): Linda presented information on the planned 2026 Trips and Tours. The first tour will be January 28th with a bus trip to ADD HERE. Trips and Tours are planned for February, March, and April. Please see the updates as they become available on the website.

Fundraising (Val and Ellen Hintz): The 9th Annual Plant and Bake sale will be held on January 24th from 9 AM to Noon. Val and Ellen asked for volunteers for bakers for the Bake Sale and for volunteers for setting up for the event and assistance during the event. Leslie Bischoff has generously volunteered to assume leadership for the Bake Sale with Ellen continuing to provide assistance.

Sunshine (Cheryl): Cheryl reported for Kim Place who was unable to attend. Karen Demore is a new member to the committee. Please contact Kim with information on members to be remembered by the Sunshine Committee with cards of support.

Other Business:

Raffle: A raffle was held with Bougainvillea items and plants as the prizes. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who supported the raffle.

Next Meeting: December 9th in the Grand Cypress Room with the meeting beginning at 1:00 PM.

Adjourn: With no other business to discuss, LeeAnn made a motion to adjourn at 2:56 PM, seconded by Linda Blaise. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

LeeAnn Podruch, Secretary

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