

VillageWalk Garden Club Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 17, 2026

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 1:08 PM who welcomed 36 members and guests. A quorum for the meeting was established.

Program: Jackie Feegan, Co-Chair of the Program's Committee, introduced the speaker, Connie Nagel, who is a master gardener and spoke on Protecting Butterflies—a Shared Effort.

Business Meeting:

President's Report: Cheryl thanked everyone who volunteered for and participated in the VWGC Plant and Bake Sale, making it a successful fundraiser for the VWGC.

Secretary's Report: LeeAnn Podruch noted that the Minutes from the January Meeting were available on the website. A motion was made by Val Shaha and seconded by Eileen McDonough to accept the Minutes from the January Meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Lynn Lewis Rogers presented the monthly financial statement for January. Revenues were almost \$7,700, expenses were around \$8,240 with an ending balance of \$245,275 with \$230,258 earmarked for the Butterfly Garden and \$15,017 for Discretionary Club purposes. \$5300 was raised at the Plant and Bake Sale, up \$750 from the previous year.

Communication (Val Shaha): No report

Programs (Jackie and Leslie): The March Program will feature Connie Nagele who will be speaking on gardening within HOA guidelines. The April Program will be a presentation by Patrick Ferguson from the Sierra Club. More information will be updated as the meetings approach.

Sustainability (Cheryl): Cheryl reported for JB and provided an update from the Sustainability Committee Meeting. The VWGC Sustainability Committee will have a booth at the Butterfly Festival and have materials available on the VW Littoral Project and the negative impact of plastics on our environment. Cheryl updated members on the progress of the littoral plantings in VW, noting that the company who planted them provides a two-year guarantee. Concern was raised about the unusual lack of rain could impact the plantings.

Membership (Eileen McDonough): Eileen reminded the members that dues for 2026 are now due by April 30th.

Butterfly Garden (Linda Blaise): The VWGC Butterfly Festival plans are proceeding as planned with members encouraged to assist with volunteering and marketing for the event. Placards are available to attach to the back of golf carts to advertise the event. The tents will be put up on Friday, March 6th at 1:00 PM for the Saturday event and volunteers are needed. Sign up to volunteer with Linda for the Butterfly Festival.

Trips and Tours (Rita): The March 3rd trip, a walking tour of Bonita Springs provided by the Bonita Springs Historical Society is still available for sign up. April 16th there will be a tour of the Naples Botanical Gardens with a focus on orchids. More information is available on the website.

Hospitality (Nina Iraggi): Thank you to the members of the Hospitality Committee for the delicious goodies prior to the meeting. Nina also announced that the VWGC Holiday Party will be held in early December with a theme of “Toyland.” Members will be asked to donate toys as decorations for the event with the toys then being donated to an organization for children.

Sunshine (Kim Place and Karen DeMare): Only a few requests have been received since September. Members are encouraged to contact Kim or Karen if they know of someone who could use a card or message.

Other Business: Announcement that herbs were still available and for sale from the Plant Sale. A message will be sent to the membership on availability.

Raffle: A raffle was held for two beautiful plants. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who supported the raffle.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2026 in the Grand Cypress Room at 1:00 PM.

Adjourn: With no other business to discuss, Val Shaha made a motion to adjourn at 2:23PM, seconded by Eileen McDonough. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

LeeAnn Podruch, Secretary

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