NEW MEXICO GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
2021 FALL BOARD MEETING
LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO
OCTOBER 27, 2021
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

The 2021 Fall Board Executive Meeting of New Mexico Garden Clubs Incorporated was called to order by President- Christine Longthorp who welcomed members at 9:35 AM

President Longthorp introduced the State District Directors

District Directors:
District I – Sonia James - absent Represented by Debi Harrington
District II - Vacant
District III - Johnese Turri absent and will be represented by Colleen Hinker
District IV - Ellie Nordgren
District V – Julie Foster

President Longthorp introduced the head table

Executive Board
1st Vice President – Debra Sorrell
2nd VP Membership – Joyce Zaugg absent
Recording Secretary - Dorothy Duff
Treasurer - Laurie Hixson
Historian - vacant
Parliamentarian - Isabel Olsen
Corresponding Secretary - JVACANT

Ariel Seamon of Valley Gardeners delivered the inspirational reading

Ginny Longbotham of Petal Pushers led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Ellie Norgren District IV Director welcomed members and guests to the 2021 Annual New Mexico Garden Clubs Fall Board Meeting

Preliminary Credentials Report – Linnea Egbert of Mesilla Valley Gardeners provided the preliminary report:
32 Full time attendees for a voting strength of 32
Lynnette Walker moved that the preliminary report be accepted. There was no discussion and the report was adopted with a voting strength of over two thirds

Parliamentarian Isabel Olsen reported that a quorum was present and read the Standing Rules of the Business Meeting. The Standing Rules of the 2021 NMGC Fall Board Meeting were accepted as read with voting strength of over two thirds.

Appointments:
The Chair appointed the following committee members to approve the minutes:

1. Julie Foster - District V Director
2. Debra Sorrell – 1st Vice President
3. Ellie Nordgren - District IV Director

Gigi Zacharias of Valley Gardeners was appointed as Time Keeper.

Linnea Eggert indicated that there were no changes or additions to the program booklet
There was a motion to adopt the booklet. There was no discussion and there were over 2/3 votes in the affirmative to accept the program booklet for the 2021 Fall NMGC Board Meeting.

President Longthorp presented the NMGC Chairman list for the 2021-2023 term which was ratified at the Executive Board Meeting. Attendees should have a list of the NMGC Chairman and the Club Presidents. President Longthorp indicated that there are vacancies in positions and encouraged members to consider volunteering for those positions,

Minutes:
Dorothy Duff, NMGC Secretary Read the minutes of the meeting from the 2019 Fall Board Meeting held in Albuquerque, NM. Minutes were approved as read with one correction.

Treasurer's Report:
Laurie Hixson NMCG Treasurer provided the Treasurer's Report. There were no questions or clarifications. The Treasurer's report will be filed for review and audit.

544 members ($4304 income) FY 2020: 430 members ($3560 income) FY 2021: 448 members ($2320 income) FY 2022
There were no additional receipts to be approved
$4000 was transferred from the CD into the operating account on 3/20/20
Past President was reimbursed $2136.09 per Board approval
Total current Funds: $54.359.33

State Officer's Reports

President: Christine Longthorp provided a verbal report reflecting on the past two years and the changes brought on by Covid-19. Positives include an increased interest in gardening which provides an opportunity to "ride the wave" and bring in new members. She also discussed how zoom can provide greater access to learning and bring younger people into garden clubs. She reminded us that if you cannot change the circumstances it is time to change yourself. She provided a positive message to members encouraging them to volunteer for the vacancies in NMGC.

Officers Reports:

1st Vice President – Debra Sorrell - no report
2nd Vice President - Joyce Zaugg absent no report but it will be online shortly
Recording Secretary - Dorothy Duff - no report
Treasurer - Laurie Hixson - no report
Historian – vacant

Annual Report: J.J. Huddleston reported that the Annual Report is available is available on the NMGC website and Suzy Andrego will distribute by email.

District Directors Reports (time limit 4 minutes per report):

District 1 Sonia James –Absent Report read by Debi Harrington
District 2 vacant
District 3 Johnese Turri: absent report read by Fred Hinker
District 4 Ellie Nordgren: Report attached
District 5 Julie Foster Report attached.

Other Reports

Recommendations from Executive Committee:

Dorothy Duff recording Secretary read a recommendation presented by Suzy Andrego that the New Mexico Garden Clubs make the annual Fall Board Meeting for Executive Committee members only. The Annual NMGC Convention (spring) will be for all members.

Rationale: 1) Membership s declining 2) Costs are rising 3) fewer members are attending and 4) Fewer members are willing to chair and hold convention in their area

Each District would then be responsible for one convention meeting every five years rather than two meetings. Suzy Andrego moved that this recommendation be accepted. Recommendation was accepted by two third or greater votes. Recommendation statement attached

Dorothy Duff recording Secretary read a recommendation presented by Awards Book ReviewCommittee consisting of Suzy Andrego, Debra Sorrell and Lynnette Walker.

There was discussion about the recommended changes and the recommendation passed with more than two thirds in agreement. Report attached.

Wreaths across America: Judy Laird discussed the program in which wreaths are donated to military cemeteries. NMGC will look into the possibility of providing wreaths for the Santa Fe National Cemetery

Healing Garden Report: President Longthorp reported that after a change in administration at the Veterans administration NMGC may now move forward with donations of plants. The hardscape done by the medical center. Installation and initial maintenance will be by NMGC members.

NMGC Annual convention will be March 23-24 in Roswell or Artesia, New Mexico.

President Longthorp called a Brief Recess and the meeting reconvened at 10:59 AM

Chairman reports (limited to 3 minutes each)

Awards Chairman – Awards Committee _Suzy Andrego, Debra Sorrel and Lynnette Walker – Report Attached

Environmental Schools: Chairman – Suzy Andrego announced that we have a Refreshed Consultant – Debi Harrington

Gardener Editor – Suzy Andrego will be focusing on the Winter Issue in which Club Presidents will be asked to submit articles. She also requested members check to see that their emails are correct as that is how the newsletter is distributed.

Penny Pines Report: MaryAnn Moreno absent. Penny Pine collection jar was passed.

Scholarship's Chairman: Sue Ferguson could not be present. Awardees can only receive funding one time.

Ways and Means: Kathleen Flanders report attached. A reminder that drawing will be after the Banquet

Youth Activities : Lynnette Walker report attached

There were no further Committee Reports or Unfinished Business

New Business: Those attending a convention for the first time were presented with a gift.

Announcements

2022 NMGC Annual convention will be March 23-24 in Roswell or Artesia

Raffle tickets can be purchased form Kathleen Flanders. A reminder that drawing will be after the Banquet
Debi Harrington announced that there will be a zoom Gardening School in April 2022.

Linnea Eggert presented the final report of the 2019 NMGC Annual Spring Convention:
Registrants: 32

The meeting was Recessed at 11:37 AM for the Lunch Program with Featured Speaker from the Chili Pepper Institute

11:30 P.M.—1:30 P.M. LUNCH & PROGRAM

"Chili Pepper Institute"

The General Meeting was resumed, President Christine Longthorp Presiding.

Final Benediction: Debra Sorrell 1st Vice President delivered the final benediction.

Adjournment: President Longthorp adjourned the meeting at 2:23PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Duff

Recording Secretary