

West Linn Garden Club
Board Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2024

Present:

Gordon Piper, President
Kim Bria, Vice President
Sue Piper, Interim Secretary
Alma Costan, At Large
Laurel Buncak, Plant Sale

Judy Hutchinson, McLean House
Cheryl Wyborny, Membership Chair

Guest: Stephanie Scott
Excused: Diane Awalt, Interim Treasurer

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

President Gordon Piper stated he was resigning his position as President because he was focused on working on efforts to reduce fire danger in Clackamas County and felt it would be taking most of his time. He planned on continuing to be an active member of the club, attending meetings, providing hands on support in the community and soliciting plant donations when needed. Board members thanked Gordon for his productive service. Vice President Kim Bria will serve as interim President until the next election in May 2024.

1. **Financial Report**—Interim Treasurer Diane Awalt sent a report stating that she had closed out the On Point account and opened a new account at US Bank. She opened a \$1000 CD with donation from Dorothy Maddax. The \$9 finance charge for paper statement was resolved. Board members asked for an accounting of the bank balance, and a report on how much was raised at the Raffle.
2. **Membership**—Membership Coordinator Cheryl Wyborny reported that we have 34 members now that former member Seth Williams has moved to a different club closer to his new home. She has three potential members in the wings. She noted several members have not attended any meetings to date—she will be reaching out to them to see if she can encourage them to attend in the future.
3. **Weyerhaeuser Grant**—Gordon Piper reported that we did not receive the grant. Kim Bria asked if he had inquired how we might improve our application in the future. Gordon said he had not done so.
4. **Plant Sale**—Laurel Buncak noted that the plant sale will be held on Saturday, May 11, 2024. Judy Hutchinson said she would reserve the spot at Hammerle Park through the Parks Department and will request a check for the correct amount from the Treasurer. Sue Piper will confirm with Diane Awalt the date of the April Pot Party—Laurel and Kim requested that it be held after April 16 as they will be out of town. Last year there were concerns that our pricing was too low. Laurel asked members who are donating

specialty plants recommend an appropriate price. In general, the Board thought we could raise our prices, perhaps starting at \$4 a pot instead of \$2 as the low end. Laurel noted that the Treasurer needs to contact US Bank now to order a credit card reader so we have that in time for the May 11 plant sale. Cheryl Wyborny asked that we reach out to another member to take over the publicity for the plant sale. She has put together a great spread sheet of timing and places to promote the sale. She will ask Gwen VanMeter if she would be willing to take on this responsibility, with Cheryl providing mentoring. Laurel will provide a blurb for the newsletter coming out before the March meeting, as well as sign up sheets for volunteers that Cheryl will make available on the sign in table. Judy Hutchinson said she will be bringing in house plants for the plant sale and will price them. Gordon Piper agreed to contact the Canby Garden Club for details on how they collect soda cans as a fund raiser, so that our club could include that as an additional way to raise funds at the plant sale.

5. **Elections**—We need to fill the At Large, President, Secretary and Treasurer positions in the upcoming elections, scheduled for May 6, 2024. A slate of candidates needs to be presented to the full membership in April. Alma Costan has termed out as the At Large member. Stephanie Scott agreed to serve as the At Large member. According to the Bylaws, Past President Diane Awalt is responsible for recruiting candidates for the open positions. The Board came up with a list of potential candidates that she should contact—of course, others who might be interested are welcome to contact Diane.
6. **Bylaws:** Cheryl Wyborny noted that a board member raised concerns about the Bylaws we approved in October. One of the issues was whether we needed an Executive Committee or should we keep the provision that officers and coordinators (committee chairs) all have voting rights. After discussion, the Board reaffirmed their approval of the Bylaws as approved on October 25, 2023: 6 for and 1 abstention. The Approved Bylaws will be circulated to the full membership in the upcoming newsletter and a vote will be taken at the May 6 meeting. Board members were asked to submit any recommended edits to the proposed standing rules to Cheryl in the next two weeks so that she and Sue Piper can revise them in time to present them to the Board at the March Board meeting.
7. **Plant Donations**—Gordon Piper asked if he could use the Club's 501c3 to solicit plant donations for various projects. The Board said that he should work with the leads of the various West Linn public projects to see what plants, if any, they wanted, and then work with their 501c3 for any plant donations.
8. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm. The next scheduled Board meeting is Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at 7 pm. Location to be announced.