

## **SDBG Docent-Volunteer Meeting October 7, 2020**

**10:00 a.m. Call to order. Susan Starr, Chair**

### **Approval of Minutes - Linda Cooper, Secretary**

Minutes of the September 2, 2020 D & V Meeting are approved as distributed.

### **Treasurer's Report - Gail Earnest, Treasurer**

The ending balance remains at \$2356.17. If anyone has suggestions on how we might use these funds, please contact Susan Starr.

### **Garden Update - Ari Novy, CEO**

The first Fiscal Quarter reflected positive revenue due to strong ticket sales, salary cuts, and letting some staff members go. Most of the staff is now back to full salary.

The two new buildings for Maintenance and Horticulture are completed and in use. The Lawn and Larabee houses are under renovation and scheduled to be done by the end of November. Roofing on the Ecke building is completed.

The Garden has received permission from the State and County to open all Children's Garden areas. The new Junior Quail Trail, located in the Eucalyptus Grove, is almost completed.

A small number of items from the Gift Shop are available outside the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, along with water and snacks. Plans to relocate the Plant Shop to the picnic area near the Conservatory are still underway. It should be open in the next few weeks.

The Garden will host a Holiday Show this winter, stay tuned for details!

### **Volunteer Updates - Jill Gardner, Director of HR and Volunteer Programs**

Jill thanked everyone for their hard work at the Garden. She reminded all volunteers to wear face coverings, (masks), and social distance at all times while at the Garden. There will be no increase the number of Horticulture volunteers at this time. It will remain at a group of 10 at a time on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

### **Sarah Sickler, Education Manager**

New educational opportunities include an onsite outdoor yoga class. Virtual classes are coming which incorporate live programming with recorded videos. Some will include supplies to be picked up at the Garden before the particular class. Coming classes include Virtual Vegetable Gardening, Cool Season Crafts, Irrigation Class for drip gardening, a Succulent Topiary class, a Virtual Air-plant Class and a Native Plant Garden class. Later in December will be Fruit Trees with John Clements.

Additionally, virtual Member Snapshot Tours will be available soon. More information is listed on the Main Garden website.

### **Old Business - Susan Starr, Chair.**

Revised Subcommittee Recommendations and Voting. Susan reviewed the following recommendations and explained the voting procedure for all active Docents via a Zoom poll.

Those not on Zoom will vote via email and send to Susan Starr. An email will be sent out with the results.

1. Recommendation #1: Change the name of the SDBG Docent Society to the SDBG Docent and Volunteer Society.

**Motion:** Gail Earnest made a motion to approve changing the name of the SDBG Docent Society to the SDBG Docent and Volunteer Society.

Seconded: Jeff Clingan.

2. Recommendation #2: All volunteers who are members of the Garden and worked 80 hours in the previous calendar year can vote.

**Motion:** Jeff Clingan made a motion that all Volunteers who are members of the Garden and worked 80 hours in the previous calendar year can vote

Seconded: Mary Friestedt.

3. Recommendation #3: All volunteers who are members of the Garden and worked 80 hours in the previous calendar year are eligible to hold office.

**Motion:** Pat Hilty made a motion to accept this recommendation.

Seconded: Mary Friestedt

## **Reports - Jeff Clingan, Vice Chair.**

**Volunteer of the Month** - Shahla Dreyer introduced Linda Case, a native of New Jersey. After college she moved to San Diego where she met her husband. Linda is a CPA and owned her own business. After retiring, she joined the Garden in 2015 and became a Docent. Linda has been actively engaged in membership, the Welcome Center, Special Events and as a Conservatory Ambassador.

## **Coordinator Reports - Jeff Clingan, Vice-Chair.**

**Docents in Training Update - Jeff Clingan.** The DIT class continued their training with virtual class tours led by Garden Docents. Anne Spindel did a presentation on Succulents, and Tandy Pfof did a presentation on Sub-Tropical Fruits. Tony Gurnoe, Director of Horticulture, led a tour of the Conservatory. Several Garden members talked about Membership and Education. Barry Martin will conduct the last class tomorrow.

**Docent Milestones - Sue Ruddick and Fran Spath.** Sue announced a 2,000 Lifetime Hour award to Fran Spath. She also recognized five 90 Hour Milestones, four 200 Hour Milestones, and one 400 Hour Milestone. Please continue to submit your hours **online**. Recipient awards will be mailed. Fran thanked Volunteers who have reported hours and reminded everyone to put their hours in online.

**Horticulture – Anna Dreilinger.** What was the Garden Beautification Program is now the Horticulture Volunteer Program which is organized and managed by the Horticulture Staff. Groups of 10 volunteers can sign up to work on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, as well as some Saturdays, from 9 to noon. Sign-ups are on SignUpGenius. John Clements, Horticulture Manager, determines which garden areas need attention and volunteers are free to choose from those. Please remember to sign in upon arriving and out before leaving.

**Botanic Book Buddies - Barb Farley.** Book Buddies will meet next Monday to discuss 'The King of California', a biography of J.G. Boswell.

**Docents at Large - Shahla Dreyer and Liz Tesolin.** No report.

**Propagation - Liz Rozycki.** Starting in November, there will be a revised version of the Plant Opportunity Drawing. It will now be a plant give away. Liz will select 3 or 4 plants from Propagation and discuss while Jill Gardner shows them. There will be a virtual drawing, and winners can collect their plant at the Garden's Admissions Booth.

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**Program:** Dean Turney, a Camellia enthusiast and past president of the Camellia Society, spoke about Sasanqua Camellias. Introduced by Kathryn Blankinship.

**Meeting Adjourned at 11:37am.**

**Linda Cooper, Secretary.**