

## District 2B Presidents Meeting

Wednesday, March 24th, 2021

6:30 – 8:00pm

### Attended:

Carol Grainger, D2B Director  
Debora Logsdon, Dewitt Millennium Garden Club (CP)  
Jolanta Piecuch, Williamston Red Center Garden Club (P)  
Sue Kesti, The Garden Club of Greater Lansing (P)  
Stella Jay, Brighton Garden Club (P)  
Karla Love, Marshall Garden Club (CP)  
Debra Plichta, Looking Glass Garden Club, Grand Ledge (P)  
Diann Jackman, Mason Sycamore Creek Garden Club (P)  
Wendy Turner, Howell Garden Club (P)  
Monica Taylor, MGC  
Janet Hickman, MGC, The Friendly Garden Club of Traverse City  
Rose Houk, MGC & DeWitt Millennium Garden Club  
Ronnie Polad, District IIB Treasurer & Garden Club of Greater Lansing  
Joan Lehnard, Garden Club of Greater Lansing

### Minutes:

#### Welcome & Introductions

- Roll Call – Type your name and club into the Chat Box. We will do a live mic roll call with the question – What are you doing to recruit younger or how are you building diversity in your membership?

#### Big Needs:

- Memorial list for each club. Members who have passed since our last MGC meeting. Name, Date of Death and Club Name
  - It was clarified that some may have been missed in 2020 Annual Report and even if they were in the report, there could be a better way to recognize those who passed since MGC June 2019's Annual Conference. Presidents are asked to supply information for the last two years on members who have passed (names, date of death and an image if it is available). Also, Ronnie P. asked what we should do with members who were not currently active or registered but were long-time members. Should we recognize them too? It was decided that we should give recognition to any members, who we felt was appropriate to acknowledge and include in the presentation.
- Jolanta asked if the MGC Annual Conference agenda included a time to recognize Life Memberships being presented this year. Janet and Monica explained that they would include them if a Club wanted them announced. However, if a Club wanted to present members with Life Memberships, as a "surprise" presentation after the Conference, then they may not want their Life Memberships announced. It is whatever the Club's preference is and you may make your special awards known to the MGC if you want them included in the recognition portion of the Conference.
- Opinion on doing a live and virtual (hybrid) Fall District Meeting – Having a live or hybrid Fall D2B Meeting was discussed.
  - September or October would be looked at to set a date. Presidents and other meeting attendees were all positive that their Clubs would want to have the option of a live meeting. The group thought that the meeting should be a scaled down event without a meal to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19, even though most of the people who would attend most likely are vaccinated or will be by that time. We can wait until closer to the date, to decide to add a meal or to include a snack. It would be challenging to plan the event with a meal and risk having to cancel the catering. Carol G. will contact Julie Hath, from the Webberville Garden Club, to see if they are still willing to host the event. If Webberville cannot host the event, then we will ask Marshall Garden Club to host the meeting.

- Carol G. will look at dates and lock in a date with MGC before moving forward.

### Statewide Events and Announcements

- Monday Morning Member Meetings – There are scheduled topics through the end of April.
  - It was suggested by Sue K. that MGC consider other days and times for these Monday Morning Meetings. Some clubs may not be able to attend because of conflicts with their own Club's member meetings. Carol G. suggested that rotating Monday Mornings with Fridays (TGIF) option and only do meetings 2 times a month to keep members from being over-whelmed with ZOOM meetings.
- Gardening School – Course II still has openings and you can register on the MGC website.
  - April 28 @ 8:00 am - April 29 @ 5:00 pm
- Environmental School Course 3 -postponed until Sept. 8 & 9, 2021
  - May 11 @ 8:00 am - May 12 @ 5:00 pm
- Flower Show School – Sept. 28-29<sup>th</sup> in Petoskey. Janet H. explained that Michigan has only 40 Flower Show judges at this time and it is important that people consider attend this school to add to our list of qualified judges. Michigan can definitely use more judges.
  - It was brought to our attention that clubs can conduct a Show without the Flower Design Show. Horticulture can be a show and then you would not need the Flower Show judges.
- Landscape Design School – Course 3 postponed to October 18-19<sup>th</sup> in Grand Haven and will posted on MGC and District 2B Weebly soon.
- June 1-3 MGC 90th Annual Conference (Zoom Event) Schedule to be posted along with registration this coming week. Cost is \$20 per registrant.
  - Some of the highlights will include:
    - Doug Tallamy "Natures Best Hope"
    - Stacy Hirvela, Marketing Manager with Spring Meadow Nursery (a Proven Winners Flowering Shrubs - the largest and best-known woody plant liner providers in North America)
    - Janet Macunovich – Planting Well (Trees)
    - Kay Charter – Backyard Birds: Planting Your Own Bird Feeder (creating a natural habitat and food source)
- Deadline for District IIB Marilyn J. Lee Award for Civic Beautification is April 1
- There is a big push to put Youth Gardening programs into the report and keep adding Pollinator Gardens to the National Registry.
- We need names of the delegates for MGC Conference in June. Dall letter goes out next week. Register your delegates ASAP. Each club gets 2 delegates and if your club has more than 50 members, you get 1 additional delegate and for each additional 50 you get 1.
  - If a member of your club is a MGC board member (i.e., District Director or other MGC officer), then they do not get included in your delegate count because they are already a delegate.
  - Rose Houk explained that the business of MGC cannot be conducted at the Annual Conference unless there is a quorum to vote on things like the bylaw changes and elections. The delegates help to make up the quorum. The business section of the MGC Conference will be on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Club Rosters – Membership Roster updates should be sent to the District Directors. Payments for membership, which begins with your new membership year starting on June 1 is also mailed to the District Director. In District IIB, Ronnie Polad has accepted to take on this task for the District Director.

### District Updates

- Need each clubs FB and website addresses. These addresses should be part of our club's information on Weebly, and we can link your Facebook pages and groups on District IIB's Facebook page, under our groups and pages. This will help increase traffic to our websites and Facebook pages. Carol G. is asking that each Club appoints a social media person who can help add and share content to the District IIB Facebook.
- Weebly Page (Question of need and want discussion on page's existence). This was not discussed.
- We could use help on the District level to manage Weebly. LaNita Campbell will be joining Peggy Bryson to help with managing the Weebly page. LaNita will learn from Peggy B. how to insert news and do updates. District IIB is in the process of splitting the Weebly page off the Meridian Garden Club's account and creating a District IIB's separate account (in September or October).

- Weebly Page Club information needs some cleaning up and added information. Carol G. suggested using Williamston Red Cedar Garden Club as example. Many of our club's listings are sparse with information or not correct. Send updated information to Carol G. or Peggy B., plbryso@gmail.com
- Keep your events posted on Weebly Calendar. Contact Peggy B., Weebly page manager- plbryso@gmail.com
- ZOOM training – Clubs that still need help on Zoom, please contact me or Laura Grainger, MGC Technology for help. We want you to use the District IIB ZOOM account.
- Newsletter deadline for next publication. We need your articles and calendars for May's issue. Deadline is May 1, 2021. Debbie Richardson will be our publisher. Carol G. will review articles and send newsletter to Debbie R. for a second review and publishing and distribution.

#### **Club Updates**

- Each Participant gives a quick update on what your club has planned for the transition back into live meetings. Carol would like a brief 1-2 paragraph summary of what your clubs have been doing this last year and what they plan to do moving forward.

#### **Open-Mic**

#### **Next Meetings**

3rd Wednesday of the Month

- Apr 21, 2021 06:30 PM
- May 19, 2021 06:30 PM