

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
2015-2017 POST-CONVENTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MINUTES

Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel

Monday, May 18, 2015

- Call to Order President Sandra H. Robinson called the meeting of the 2015-2017 NGC Board of Directors to order at 7:34 a.m. on May 18, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza Airport Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, and welcomed those in attendance.
- Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary was present.
- Introductions The President introduced those seated at the head table.
- Blessing Laurel DeBoer, The Garden Clubs of Illinois, Inc. President presented the blessing.
- The Board recessed for breakfast at 7:39 a.m. to reconvene at 8:09 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance to The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Janice Clem, the Flag of the United States of America Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. President.
- Introduction of Convention The President thanked Convention Chairman Ann Fiel, Co-Chairman Joan Wipperman, and the Committee the entire Kentucky Convention Committee for their hard work in hosting the 2015 NGC Convention.
- Quorum The Chair declared a quorum present.
- Adoption of Agenda The agenda was adopted as amended.
- Committee to Approve The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2015 Post- Minutes Convention Meeting:
 Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, as Chairman
 Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President
 Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
- Timekeepers The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:
 Janet Petersen, Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. President
 Debby B. Cooper, The Garden Clubs of Mississippi, Inc. President
- Introduction of 2015-2017 The following 2015-2017 Region Directors were recognized:
Region Directors Vera Bowen, New England
 Anne M. Bucher, Central Atlantic
 Sarah Ann Parler, South Atlantic
 Carol M. Bullard, Deep South
 Judy Newman, Central
 Barbara S. Baker, South Central
 Darlene Skari, Rocky Mountain
 Kristie Livreri, Pacific
- Recognition of former NGC The President welcomed former NGC Presidents: Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Renee D. Presidents Blaschke (2009-2011), Shirley S. Nicolai (2011-2013), and Linda Nelson Bentson, Immediate Past President (2013-2015).
- Chairmen and Committees The President announced, the following chairmanships and committee members as designated designated in Bylaws in NGC Bylaws by virtue of office for information only:
- Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President, as Liaison to the State Garden Club Presidents and

Region Directors and as member of Membership Committee

Gay Austin, Second Vice-President, as Finance Committee Chairman with members: Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President; Betty Grimes, Treasurer; and Linda Nelson Bentson, Director of the PH&E Trustees.

Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President, as Organization Study Committee Chairman

Scholarship Committee composed of the eight Region Directors as members (The appointed Chairman is Elaine Gunderson, 2013-2015 Region Director)

Betty Grimes, Treasurer, as Budget Committee Chairman with members: Gay Austin, Finance Committee Chairman and Linda Nelson Bentson, PH&E Trustees Director.

Gay Austin, Second Vice-President and Finance Committee Chairman, as Internal Audit Committee Chairman members: Sandra H. Robinson, President; Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President; and Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President.

Ratification of Vice-Presidents as Chairmen of Committees with Committee Members

The President announced the Vice-Presidents to serve as appointed Chairmen of Committees with appointed members as follows:

Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President, as Liaison to the American Horticultural Society and Chairman of Future Planning Committee with members: Gay Austin, Brenda Moore, Shirley S. Nicolai, Robin Pokorski, and Mary Warshauer.

Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President, as Chairman of the Award of Excellence Committee with members: Vera Bowen, and Judy Newman.

Finance Committee members: Regina I. Brown, Barbara M. Campbell, Wanda S. Davis, Dale W. DeFeo, Jeanette B. Pruin and Pat Westgard.

Organization Study Committee members: Betty Cookendorfer, Bylaws Chairman; Julie Schoenike, Standing Rules Chairman; Marion H. Books; Shane Looper; Janice Miller; Mary E. Owen; and Estelle Woodcock.

RATIFIED

Ratification of 2015-2017 Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and Members of Committees

A list of Chairmen, Vice-Chairmen and members of standing committees appointed by the President for the 2015-2017 administration was distributed. Additions were Sarah Nahmias, Marketing Chairman and Elva Davidson, Leadership Committee.

RATIFIED

Appointed Officers

The Executive Committee approved the following appointments by the President for the 2015-2017 administration:

Corresponding Secretary - Robin Pokorski
Historian - Pamela C. Hebert
Parliamentarian - Joan H. Corbisiero, PRP
Permanent Home & Endowment Trustees Director - Linda Nelson Bentson

Appointed Trustees

The Executive Committee approved the appointments of Jeanette B. Pruin and Linda Nelson Bentson as Trustees of the Permanent Home & Endowment Trustee for six-year (6) terms.

RATIFIED

Executive Director Editor, *TNG*

The Executive Committee approved the following appointments by the President for the 2015-2017 administration:

Michelle Smith, Executive Director
Susan Davidson, Editor of *The National Gardener*

Treasurer as Fiscal Agent	The Executive Committee approved Betty Grimes, Treasurer, NGC Fiscal Agent for the 2015-2017 administration.	RATIFIED
Legal Counsel	The Executive Committee approved the appointment of the firm of Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin to serve as NGC Legal Counsel for the 2015-2017 administration.	RATIFIED
Auditors	The Executive Committee approved the appointment of the Certified Public Accounting firm of Mueller Prost PC, to serve as Auditor for the 2015-2017 administration.	RATIFIED
Public Relations Firm	The Executive Committee approved the appointment of Binder PR & Marketing Communications to serve as the public relations firm representing NGC for the 2015-2017 administration.	RATIFIED
Approval of Website Development Consultant	The Executive Committee approved the appointment of Sparks Milling Digital to serve as website development consultant for NGC for the 2015-2017 administration.	RATIFIED
Presentation of State Garden Club Presidents	Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary, announced the 2015-2017 Presidents of State Garden Clubs already elected. The President presented each State President their certificate. (List filed)	
Presentation of NGC Nominating Committee Members	Nancy C. Voyles, Nominating Committee Chairman, presented those elected to the 2015-2017 NGC Nominating Committee: Patricia J. Cargnoni - Vice-Chairman Nancy Donaldson - New England Region De Feldman - New England Region Jackie A. Handley - Central Atlantic Region Betty Cookendorfer - Central Atlantic Region Ann M. Fiel - South Atlantic Region Betsy L. Steele - South Atlantic Region Carol R. Keefe - Deep South Region Valerie C. Tipps - Deep South Region Susan Cooney - Central Region Fran Stueck - Central Region Bobbie Verser - South Central Region Sarah McReynolds - South Central Region Donna Rouch - Rocky Mountain Region Audrey Coyle Rocky Mountain Region Shane Looper - Pacific Region Sandra Ford - Pacific Region	
Program/Budget 2015 Fall Board Meeting	The tentative program and proposed budget for the 2015 Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri were presented. The proposed budget was reviewed by the 2013 - 2015 Finance Committee as well as the 2015 - 2017 Executive Committee.	ADOPTED
Future Fall Board Meetings	Fall Board Meetings Chairman Robin Pokorski and Vice-Chairman Dave West reported on future Fall Board of Directors' Meetings: September 15 - 19, 2015 - Marriott St. Louis Airport Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri September 20 - 24, 2016 - Portland, Maine - Holiday Inn by the Bay 2017 - St. Louis, Missouri 2018 - TBA 2019 - St. Louis, Missouri	
	The invitation to attend the 2015 Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri was issued by Sue Reed, Vice-Chairman.	

Recommendations for Ratification

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, presented the following recommendations for ratification:

1. That National Garden Clubs accept an invitation to judge two flower shows in Uruguay, tour departure November 1, return November 10, arriving November 11, 2016. Judge in Colonia November 3; travel to Montevideo to attend a design or horticulture Christmas exhibit November 6; judge show in Punta del Este November 8.

RATIFIED

2. That the President's Special Project "Service in Action," be ratified for 2015-2017:
The President's Special Project, promotes the protection of bees, butterflies, and frogs through conservation, education, backyard habitats, roadside plantings, and publications.
 - a. That the partnership with Crown Bees be continued for 2015-2017
 - b. That the Monarch Watch program continued and Monarch Way stations be adopted as a project
 - c. That *The Frightened Frog* be adopted as the Children's Project for 2015-2017
 - d. That the Leadership Development project be approved. The committee will assemble material for leadership development of local club and state officers, local leadership development workshops, and information for club members

RATIFIED

3. That the following awards for the 2015-2017 President's Special Project be ratified. All awards to be awarded annually funded in excess of \$2,000 by private donations.
 - a. "Conservation in Action" Roadside Development Award – sponsored by Jon and Debi Harrington
 - 1st Place - \$500
 - 2nd Place - \$250
 - 3rd Place - \$100
 - Youth - \$100\$50 for small plaques or framed certificates for the winning clubs.

RATIFIED

- b. "Service in Action" – President's Special Project Award
For the most comprehensive and effective projects within the four areas: BeeGap, Monarch Watch/Way stations, *The Frightened Frog*, and Leadership Development. General Rules applicable to all applications

- 1st Place - \$200
- 2nd Place - \$100

In each category:

State Awards

- A. Small State up to 999 members
- B. Medium State 1,000 – 2,999 members
- C. Large State 3,000 – 7,999 members
- D. Extra-Large State 8,000 + members

Club Awards

- A. Small Club 29 members and under
- B. Medium Club 30-59 members
- C. Large Club 60-99 members
- D. Extra Large Club 100 + members

RATIFIED

- c. "Protecting Our Pollinators" - Youth Award
Container Gardens for our Pollinators – sponsored by Mary Ann Moreno
For grades 1 – 5. All awards will be presented to each grade.
 - 1st Place - \$100 and certificate
 - 2nd Place - \$75 and certificate
 - 3rd Place - \$50 and certificate
 - Honorable Mention - \$25 and certificate
 - Certificate of Participation for each award application

RATIFIED

- d. *The Frightened Frog* - Youth Award
 For grades 1 – 3. All awards will be presented to each grade.
 1st Place - \$100 and certificate
 2nd Place - \$75 and certificate
 3rd Place - \$50 and certificate
 Honorable Mention - \$25 and certificate
 Certificate of Participation for each award application

RATIFIED

Recommendations for Adoption

1. That the following continuing partnerships and/or projects be approved:
 Youth related:
 Poetry Contest
 Theme 2015-2016 “Croaking Leaping Frogs”
 Theme 2016-2017 “We Three: Bees, Butterflies and Me”
 High School Essay Contest for Youth
 Theme 2015-2016 “Don’t Let the Frogs Croak!”
 Theme 2016-2017 “We Need our Pollinators”
 Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Poster Contest
 Recyclable Sculpture Contest using recycled, reused, or reduced materials.
Adult-related:
 Ames Tools Grants
 Blue Star Memorial Markers Program
 Ecology Warriors Workbook
 Habitat for Humanity Gardens
 International Disasters/World Gardening
 National Garden Week
 Natural Disaster Grants
 Penny Pines/Reforestation
 Plant it Pink
 International and Natural Disasters
 SAGE and ROSES

ADOPTED

2. That the following new project be approved:
BEE A Wildlife Action Hero! – Commit to Garden for Wildlife
 Garden Club Award – \$500 annually
 Junior Garden Club Award - \$250 annually

ADOPTED

3. That NGC partner in National Pollinator Garden Network - Million Garden Challenge.

ADOPTED

4. That the mode of distribution for *Keeping in Touch* be changed from direct mail to an electronic version to be send to State Presidents for distribution to each club president.

ADOPTED

5. That the International Affiliated (IA's) function with their own Multiple Refresher Chairman to administer (approve, register and accredit) all IA Multiple Refreshers, sending only IA Multiple Refresher summary data [refresher date & location (city & country); total attendance; number refreshing in ESS, GSS, LDS] to the NGC Multiple Refresher Chairman and NGC Schools Secretary for record-keeping.

ADOPTED

Committee Chairmen's Reports

The following Chairmen reported:
 Andrea Little, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman
 Jim Mullen, Land Conservation Chairman
 Poss Tarpley, Webmaster
 Carcille Burchette, Plant It Pink Chairman
 Mary Ann Bryant, Tours
 Kay Fisher, President's Special Project Chairman

