

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
MINUTES**

Best Western Heritage Hotel, Great Falls, Montana

Saturday, September 25, 2010

Call to Order The President, Renee D. Blaschke, called the meeting of the 2009-2011 NGC Board of Directors to order at 9:02 a.m. on September 25, 2010 at the Best Western Heritage Hotel, Great Falls, Montana and welcomed those in attendance.

The Recording Secretary, Robin Pokorski, was present.

Opening Exercises Nell Denman, Chaplain & Installation Book Coordinator, gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Delroy Hemsath, President of the Federated Garden Clubs of Nebraska.

Sandra Dennis, Rocky Mountain Region Director, welcomed NGC to the Rocky Mountain Region.

Norman DeNeal, President of the Montana Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc., welcomed NGC to Montana.

Students from the Longfellow Elementary School in Great Falls welcomed NGC through Native American dance.

Introductions President Blaschke welcomed former presidents Kitty Larkin and Barbara D. May, the Immediate Past President and PH&E Trustees Director.

President Blaschke presented the Regional Directors:

- Kathy Thomas, New England
- Carmie DeVito, Central Atlantic
- Carolyn Patterson, South Atlantic
- Mary Sue Colvin, Deep South
- Joan Hood, Central
- Mary Ann Moreno, South Central
- Sandy Dennis, Rocky Mountain
- Sandy Ford, Pacific

Credentials Report Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the following Preliminary Credentials Report as of 8:00 a.m. September 25, 2010 showing a voting strength of 214 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	6
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	2
PH&E Trustees	4
State Presidents	47
Representatives of State Presidents	0
NGC Chairmen	124
NGC Standing Committee Members	<u>71</u>
Subtotal	267
Less duplications	<u>53</u>
Total Voting Strength	214

ADOPTED

Sandy Robinson, Third Vice-President
Nancy Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President
Barbara Mikkelson, Treasurer
Virginia GrandPrè, Corresponding Secretary
Judi Davis, Historian
Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
Barbara May, PH & E Trustees Director

Executive Director Report Michelle Smith, Executive Director, reported. (Copy on file)

Auditor's Report The Recording Secretary read the report of the auditor, Mueller Prost PC (formerly MPP&W) Certified Public Accountants.

ADOPTED

2011 Convention Program and Budget The tentative program and proposed budget for the 2011 Convention in Washington D.C. was presented.

ADOPTED

Recommendations for Ratification On behalf of the Executive Committee, Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary, presented the following recommendations for ratification:

1. That NGC sponsor a membership contest that runs one year from June 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011. The state with the most new clubs will win the honor of naming an African violet after its state.

RATIFIED

2. That four (4) cases of unsold NGC 2010 Vision of Beauty calendars be shipped to the Fall Board Meeting in Great Falls, Montana at a cost of \$85.96 for distribution at the discretion of the Fall Board Meeting Committee.

RATIFIED

3. That the NGC purchase of 100 daffodil earrings from HJ Constellation at a cost of \$4.85 per pair, to be sold for \$12.00 per pair; quantity price for 24 or more pairs, to be sold for \$9.50 per pair.

RATIFIED

4. That a "HOLIDAY COUPON" on the book, *Gourds from Vine to Design* be approved. Coupon price of *Gourds from Vine to Design* will be \$12.95.

RATIFIED

5. The election, by the Executive Committee, of Dale DeFeo as Chairman and Arabella Dane as Vice-Chairman of the NGC 2011-2013 Nominating Committee.

RATIFIED

Recommendations for Adoption On behalf of the Executive Committee, Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary, presented the following recommendations for adoption:

1. That the NGC website be considered an e-property and be included in the list of NGC property assets.

ADOPTED

2. That the 2012 *Vision of Beauty* Calendars be increased in price as follows:
From \$6.50 to \$6.75 for one copy

From \$4.50 to \$5.00 for 2-49 copies
From \$3.95 to \$4.50 for 50-99 copies
From \$3.50 to \$4.00 for 100 or more copies
In quantity pricing, the customer pays shipping and handling.

ADOPTED

3. That the following be approved for purchase from HJ Constellation and sale:

Pumpkin pins for \$11.00/sell for \$25.00
Pumpkin earrings pairs for \$6.25/sell for \$15.00
Wreaths, for \$8.25/sell for \$18.00
Snowman pins for \$8.25/sell for \$18.00

ADOPTED AS AMENDED

4. That up to \$21,000 of the approved funds from the Publication Fund be released, to be used for editing and layout and printing of 5,000 copies of the new horticulture book.

ADOPTED

5. That the printing of the current Member Services Catalog be discontinued. Black and white copies may be requested from NGC Headquarters.

ADOPTED

6. That the bid of Insty-Prints of Alexandria, VA of \$6,964.89 be accepted to print 1,300 copies of the 2011-13 NGC Directory (234 pages per copy).

ADOPTED

7. That the remaining 2010 calendars be sold in bulk (by carton of 50 only) for \$25.00 per carton. This price will cover shipping and handling.

ADOPTED

8. That the name of the outgoing President, Renee D. Blaschke, be added to the list of names in the bylaws for whom scholarships are awarded.

ADOPTED

9. That NGC permit regions to use 4401 Magnolia Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri as their address of record for 990 filing with the IRS subject to approval by legal counsel.

ADOPTED

10. That NGC establish a project (Sage & Roses - Send A Greeting Electronically and Recognize Our Servicemen's Every Sacrifice) to facilitate placement of NGC Blue Star Memorial Markers through the collection of donations. Lois Shuster and Marilyn Whitmore to develop guidelines.

ADOPTED

11. That a directory of therapy gardens for the visually and physically impaired be available on the NGC website. A printed copy will be available from Headquarters upon request.

ADOPTED

12. That curriculum changes to the Handbook for Flower Shows be effective July 1, 2011:

- a. Addition of practice point scoring to Course I (page 246 Horticulture and page 252 Design).

- i. Grades unrecorded, committee to provide three exhibits in one class in both design and horticulture selected by instructor.
- b. Addition of written point scoring in horticulture and design to Course II.
 - i. Grades will be recorded, committee will provide three exhibits in two classes in both design and horticulture selected by instructor. Master Panel required.

ADOPTED

13. That housekeeping changes to Instructors' Manual correspond to course changes.

ADOPTED

14. Horticulture changes to the Handbook for Flower Shows, effective January 1, 2011
- a. Scale of Points is renamed from "Flowering Specimens" to "Flowering Specimens or Specimens with Colorful Bracts" (page 298)
 - b. Descriptive changes under bromeliad (page 126) and poinsettia (page 146)

ADOPTED

15. Delete #2 c. and insert new c. Award of Merit (page 43) Classes in each eligible section must share: 1) some physical quality, e.g. flowering, foliage, miniature; 2) some common growing condition/life cycle, e.g. annual, perennial, biennial, bulb, vine vegetable, fruit, nut or 3) one genus (*Hemerocallis*, *Hosta*, *Rosa*). Being a cut specimen is not a sufficient shared quality. Exhibits within a class must be judged on the same scale of points. Delete #2 d. #2 e. becomes #2 d.

ADOPTED

16. That NGC accept in principle the concept that income/expenses of NGC Conventions and Fall Board Meetings be the reporting responsibility of NGC.

ADOPTED

17. That NGC receive all financial information from the 2010 NGC Convention in Atlanta to be audited by Mueller & Prost PC and to be included in the appropriate NGC financial reports. The audit cost to be expensed prior to division of any convention excess funds.

ADOPTED

18. That NGC make a one-time donation of \$100 to the Clean Water Network.

Amendments to Standing Rules

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary, presented the following amendments to the Standing Rules for adoption:

ADD: SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

The NGC Scholarship Chairman shall:

- A. Compile the list of state scholarship chairmen and their contact information for inclusion in the NGC Scholarship Application.
- B. Submit the updated NGC Scholarship Application to the NGC website.
- C. Notify all state scholarship chairmen when the updated NGC Scholarship Application is ready for distribution.
- D. Receive one application per state from the state's scholarship chairman each year. Exception: States having 10,000 or more members may submit two applications for consideration by the NGC Scholarship Committee. In January, the NGC Scholarship Chairman will notify Scholarship Chairmen

of the states that are eligible to submit two applications.

- E. Submit a recommendation to the Executive Committee at the Fall Board Meeting in the even-numbered year that the name of the outgoing President be added to the list of names in the bylaws for whom scholarships are awarded.

The Committee shall:

- A. Determine the eligibility requirements for applicants of the NGC Scholarships
- B. Choose the format and the information required on the NGC Scholarship Application.
- C. Establish the procedure for judging the applications.
- D. Judge the applications to determine the number of winners per scholarships available, as determined by the Finance and Budget Committees.
- E. Make the application available on the NGC website in August each year.
- F. Combine named scholarships to conform to the number of scholarships that will actually be funded/awarded.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Page 15 **PERMANENT HOME AND ENDOWMENT TRUSTEES**, effective with the 2011-2013 Administration

5. **Reads:** Permanent Home contributions of \$25 or more will be acknowledged by a Certificate, suitable for framing, with name of honoree and donor. The donor may request Headquarters to send the Certificate to the donor or to the honoree.
Strike: \$25, insert \$50
7. Stewards of Tomorrow:
Reads: A contribution of \$2,500 or more is recognized by an individual nameplate 12" X 18"
Strike: \$2,500, insert \$5,000
Reads: A contribution of \$1,000 (or contribution of \$1,000 to \$2,499) is recognized by an individual nameplate 5 ½" X 18" applied on the adjoining brick columns.
Substitute: A contribution of \$2,000 (or contribution of \$2,000 to \$4,999) is recognized by an individual nameplate 5 ½" X 18" applied on the adjoining brick columns.
8. Friends of the Future:
Reads: A gift of \$500 (or a sum to \$1,000) is recognized by an individual nameplate hanging in the east Foyer.
Substitute: A gift of \$1,000 (or a sum to \$2,000) is recognized by an individual nameplate hanging in the east Foyer.
9. Honor Books:
Reads: a. The Book of Appreciation, second edition, \$25, to honor anyone who has given support to NGC (computer generated).
Strike: \$25, insert \$50.
Reads: b. The Book of Club Presidents, second edition, \$50, to honor any club president (computer generated).
Strike: \$50, insert \$100.
Reads: c. The Book of Remembrance, second edition, \$50, to honor the memory of anyone (computer generated).
Strike: \$50, insert \$100.
Reads: d. The Roll of Honor Book, first and continued edition, \$100, in calligraphy to provide great honor to anyone.
Strike: \$100, insert \$200.

Page 14 **MEMORIALS**, effective with the 2011-2013 Administration

2. **Reads:** Permanent Home contributions of \$25 or more, paying tribute to one honoree or memorializing one person, are listed in *The National Gardener*. Listing of two honorees or two memorials requires a gift of \$50 or more.
Substitute: Permanent Home contributions of \$50 or more, paying tribute to one honoree or memorializing one person, are listed in *The National Gardener*. Listing of two honorees or two memorials requires a gift of \$100 or more.

ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE

Recess
Reconvene

The meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m.
The meeting reconvened at 2:01 p.m.

Amendments to Bylaws

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary, presented the following amendments to the Bylaws for approval by the Board of Directors and for recommendation to the voting body at the 2011 NGC Convention in Washington, D.C.:

BYLAW ARTICLE XVI-FINANCES

Section 2. FINANCE COMMITTEE

C. Funds –Page 21

2. Restricted and Endowment:

a) Permanent Home and Endowment Fund – Page 21

2) **Strike** “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance committee and the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

Insert “A percentage, not to exceed five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years as determined by the Finance Committee and the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

b) Scholarship Fund – Page 21

2) **Strike** “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

Insert “A percentage, not to exceed five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

c) Operation Wildflower Fund – Page 23

2) **Strike** “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance Committee of unrestricted cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

Insert “A percentage, not to exceed five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

d) NGC Endowment Fund – Page 23

2) **Strike** “A percentage not to exceed eighty (80) percent of the average annual return over the past ten (10) years as determined by the Finance Committee of unrestricted cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

Insert “A percentage, not to exceed five (5) percent of the value averaged over the past three (3) years as determined by the Finance Committee, of unrestricted cash and investments of this fund as of May 31 shall be available for use during succeeding years for:”

APPROVED

Nominating Committee Report	Marilyn Whitmore, Nominating Committee Chairman, introduced those serving on the Nominating Committee and presented the following nominees for NGC office: Linda Nelson First Vice-President Sandra H. Robinson Second Vice-President Nancy Hargroves Third Vice-President Gay Austin Recording Secretary Patsy Ruth Miller Treasurer Shirley S. Nicolai became President-Elect June 1, 2010
Future Conventions	Anne Bucher, Conventions Coordinator and Phyllis Steele, Conventions Vice-Coordinator reported on future convention locations: 2011 Washington, D.C. – JW Marriott Hotel, May 27-29 2012 Buffalo, New York – Adams Mark Hotel, May 16-19 2013 Seattle, Washington – May 24-26 2014 Oklahoma tba 2015 Kentucky tba
Future Fall Board Meetings	Diane Bullock, Fall Board Meeting Coordinator, and Helga Frazzette, Fall Board Meetings Vice-Coordinator, reported on future Fall Board of Directors’ Meetings: 2011 St. Louis, Missouri – September 20-25 2012 Little Rock, Arkansas – September 25-29 2013 St. Louis, Missouri 2014 Des Moines, Iowa 2015 St. Louis, Missouri 2016 Portland, Maine 2017 St. Louis, Missouri
2011 Fall Board Meeting Invitation	Jeanette Helland, 2011 Fall Board Meeting Chairman, extended an invitation to the 2011 Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.
2011 Convention Invitation	Dale DeFeo, 2011 Convention Chairman, extended an invitation to the 2011 Convention in Washington, D.C.
Report of the 2010 Convention, Atlanta	Deanna N. McFarlan, 2010 Convention Chairman, presented a preliminary convention report. The final report will be presented at the 2011 Convention in Washington, D.C.
Reports of Chairmen	The following Chairmen reported: Jeanne Nelson, President’s Project “Beautify Blight” Chairman and Carol Smith, Vice-Chairman Anne Becker, Strategic Planning – reported on morning’s dialogue sessions Jimmie Meinhardt, Blue Star Memorial Markers Deanna Roberts, Tours Chairman Sara Brooks, Garden Therapy

REPORTS FILED

Delaware Federation Special Report Alice Witterhold, Delaware Federation of Garden Clubs' President, reported on the garden and Blue Star Memorial Marker at the Center for the Fallen at Dover Air Force Base.

Future Board of Directors Meetings The President announced the future Board of Directors meetings as follows:
May 27, 2011 – Washington, D.C. – JW Marriott Hotel

Final Credentials Report Sally Warner, Credentials Chairman, gave the Final Credentials Report as of 3:10 p.m. September 25, 2010 with a voting strength of 214 and moved its adoption.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	6
NGC Appointed Officers	4
Regional Directors	8
Advisory Committee	2
PH&E Trustees	4
State Presidents	47
Representatives of State Presidents	0
NGC Chairmen	124
NGC Standing Committee Members	71
Less duplications	<u>53</u>
Total Voting Strength	214

ADOPTED

Final Registration Report Phyllis White, 2010 Fall Board Meeting Registrar, gave the registration report as of 3:10 p.m. September 25, 2010 for information only.
Voting Strength214
Guests.....47
Total Registration 261

Recess The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m. to reconvene at the Banquet.

Reconvene The meeting reconvened at 10:04 p.m.

Courtesy Resolution Florence Smith, Resolutions Vice-Chairman read the Courtesy Resolution and moved its adoption.

ADOPTED

Benediction Nell Denman, Chaplain, gave the benediction.

Adjournment of Business Meeting There being no further business and no objection, the 2010 Fall Board Meeting of National Garden Clubs, Inc. was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Robin L Pokorski

Robin Pokorski, Recording Secretary Date

Renee D. Blaschke

Renee D. Blaschke, President Date

Linda Nelson

Linda Nelson, Second Vice-President

Date

Sandra H. Robinson

Sandra H. Robinson, Third Vice-President

Date

Nancy L. Hargroves

Nancy L. Hargroves, Fourth Vice-President

Date