

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

St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel

Saturday, September 19, 2015

Call to Order President Sandra H. Robinson called the eighty-sixth fall meeting of the 2015-2017 NGC Board of Directors to order at 9:31 a.m. on September 19, 2015 at the St. Louis Airport Marriott Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri and welcomed those in attendance.

Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary, was present.

Opening Exercises Sara F. Brooks, Chaplain gave the invocation.

The colors were presented by a member of Moolah Shrine.

Andrea Little, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Debi Harrington, Horticulture Committee Chairman, Roadside Beautification Chairman gave the NGC Conservation Pledge.

Judy Newman, Central Region Director and Scholarship Committee member, welcomed the Board of Directors to the Central Region.

Nancy Bahn, President of the Federated Garden Clubs of Missouri, Inc., welcomed the Board of Directors to the state of Missouri.

Recognition of former President Robinson welcomed the former Presidents of National Garden Clubs, Inc.:
NGC Presidents Lois Duprè Shuster (2001-2003), Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Barbara D. May (2007-2009),
Renee D. Blaschke, (2009-2011), Shirley S. Nicolai, (2011-2013), and Linda Nelson Bentson,
Immediate Past President and PH&E Trustees Director.

Introduction of 2015- President Robinson recognized 2015-2017 Region Directors present: Anne M. Bucher, Central
2017 Region Directors Atlantic; Pat Abercrombie, South Atlantic Alternate Director; Carol M. Bullard, Deep South;
Judy Newman, Central; Barbara S. Baker, South Central; Darlene Skari, Rocky Mountain; and
Kristie Livreri, Pacific.

Credentials Report Jackie Reynolds, Credentials Chairman, presented the Preliminary Credentials Report as of
8:00 a.m. September 19, 2015.

NGC President	1
NGC Honorary President	0
NGC Elected Officers	5
NGC Appointed Officers	3
Regional Directors	7
Advisory Committee	6
PH&E Trustees	7
State Presidents	48
Representatives of State Presidents	1
NGC Chairmen	62
NGC Standing Committee Members	<u>135</u>
Subtotal	275
Less Duplications	<u>84</u>
Total Voting Strength	194

ADOPTED

Quorum The Chair declared a quorum present.

Registration Report	<p>Judy Sheets, 2015 Fall Board Meeting Chairman, presented the Registration Report as of 8:00 a.m. September 19, 2015, for information only.</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>Total Voting Strength</td> <td style="text-align: right;">194</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Guests</td> <td style="text-align: right;"><u>9</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Registration</td> <td style="text-align: right;">203</td> </tr> </table>	Total Voting Strength	194	Guests	<u>9</u>	Total Registration	203
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Standing Rules of the Board of Directors	<p>Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian, presented the Standing Rules of the Board of Directors.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ADOPTED BY 2/3 VOTE</p>						
Agenda	<p>The agenda was adopted.</p>						
Committee to Approve Minutes	<p>The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Gay Austin, Second Vice-President as Chairman Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary</p>						
Timekeepers	<p>The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Isabel Olsen, Membership Committee, Penny Pines Reforestation Chairman Dianne Caines, Calendar Committee Promotions Vice-Chairman</p>						
Report of the Committees to Approve the Minutes	<p>Nancy L. Hargroves, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the Pre-Convention Board of Directors' Meeting, May 15, 2015 in Louisville, Kentucky reported that the minutes had been approved and circulated.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ADOPTED</p> <p>Gay Austin, Chairman of the committee to approve the minutes of the Post-Convention Board of Directors' Meeting, May 18, 2015 in Louisville, Kentucky, reported that the minutes had been approved and circulated.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ADOPTED</p>						
Resignations	<p>The resignation of Betsy Smith, Leap Into Leadership Committee, was accepted by the Executive Committee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACCEPTED WITH REGRET</p>						
Ratification of Appointments	<p>The following appointments made by President Robinson were approved by the Executive Committee:</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Jackie Reynolds, Chairman of the 2017 Fall Board meeting in St. Louis, Missouri Mary Davidson Officer, Vice-Chairman of the 2017 Fall Board Meeting in St Louis, Missouri Marion Hilliard, Environmental Concerns/Legislation Vice-Chairman Rosalia Cerchi (Uruguay), Membership Committee IA Spanish Speaking, South America Zone I (Brazil, Columbia, Uruguay, Venezuela). Susana Schiaffino (Argentina), Membership Committee IA Spanish Speaking, South America Zone II (Argentina, Chile, Ecuador, Peru). Magda Cantu, Membership Committee IA Spanish Speaking, Mexico. Silvia Castaneda, Membership Committee IA Spanish Speaking, Central America.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RATIFIED</p>						
Presentation of State Garden Club Presidents	<p>Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary, presented the certificates to the Presidents of the State Garden Clubs who had taken office since the 2015 NGC Convention. (List filed)</p>						
Reports of Officers	<p>The following officers reported: (Copies on file)</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Sandra H. Robinson, President</p>						

Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President
Gay Austin, Second Vice-President
Mary Warshauer, Third Vice-President
Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary
Betty Grimes, Treasurer, Budget Committee Chairman
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary
Pamela C. Hebert, Historian
Joan H. Corbisiero, Parliamentarian
Linda Nelson Bentson, PH&E Trustees Director

Executive Director
Report

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

Auditor's Report

The Recording Secretary read the report of the auditor, Mueller Prost, PC, Certified Public Accountants.

ADOPTED

2016 Convention
Program and Budget

President Robinson announced that new information would be distributed for the 2016 NGC Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Recommendations for
Adoption

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

1. That the preparation of an Intellectual Property and Proprietary Information Policy for NGC by legal counsel Husch Blackwell LLP be authorized.

ADOPTED

2. That the Memorandum of Understanding between National Wildlife Federation and National Garden Clubs, Inc. be approved.

ADOPTED

3. That Global Partners Running Waters be approved as NGC's 2015-2017 World Gardening partner.

ADOPTED

4. That a Special Committee be appointed to revise the Flower Show Schools Instructors Manual, to be completed for distribution by the 2017 Instructors Symposium. The Committee shall consist of David Robson, Chairman; Barbara May; Jan Warshauer; Shane Looper; with Dorthy Yard as Advisor.

ADOPTED

5. That International Affiliates Instructors be allowed to renew their Instructor's Credentials, if unable to attend U.S. Symposia, by completing prescribed alternate requirements.

ADOPTED

Recommendations for
Ratification

1. That the purchase of 500 ivory white silk scarfs (size 15" wide x 44" long) be approved, using the design of NGC President Sandra Robinson's certificates, at a cost of \$16.55 each (excluding artwork of approximately \$105 and shipping), to sell for \$35 each through Member Services.

RATIFIED

2. That the following be approved as International Affiliates:

Asociacion de Clubes de Jardinaria y Diseno de Coahuila A.C. (Del Rio, Texas)

Club Bonsai (Garcia, NL, Mexico)

Consejo de Juices de Coahuila en Horticultura Diseno Floral (Coahuila, Mexico)

RATIFIED

Bylaw Amendments

1. **Page 5, Article VII, DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS:**

B. Annual Dues of Affiliate Member Organizations

CURRENTLY READS:

1. Annual dues of each Affiliate Member Organization shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per annum payable to NGC Headquarters by October 31.

STRIKE 1. and RENUMBER the remaining items in Section B

ADOPTED

2. **Page 5, Article VII, DUES, FEES AND CONTRIBUTIONS:**

B. Annual Dues of Affiliate Member Organizations:

CURRENTLY READS:

2. Annual dues of each National Affiliate Member organization shall be fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per annum payable to NGC Headquarters by October 31.

STRIKE “fifteen dollars (\$15.00)” **and INSERT** “thirty dollars (\$30.00)”

ADOPTED

3. Annual dues of each International Affiliate Member organization shall be twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per annum payable to NGC Headquarters by October 31.

STRIKE “twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)” **and INSERT** “fifty dollars (\$50.00)”

ADOPTED

3. **Page 14, Article XI, ELECTION OF OFFICERS, Section 1. ELECTIONS, B:**

CURRENTLY READS: All elections shall be by ballot and a majority vote shall elect. However, in the event that there is only one nominee for any elected office to be filled, election may be by voice.

STRIKE the words "election may be by voice" **and INSERT** "the Chair shall declare the nominee elected."

ADOPTED

Standing Rules
Amendments

1. **Page 1, Affiliates, #1**

CURRENTLY READS:

1. National Affiliate clubs or organizations of NGC shall pay dues of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) and International Affiliate clubs or organizations of NGC shall pay dues of twenty five dollars (\$25.00) that shall accompany the membership application. Thereafter dues of the like amount shall be paid annually to NGC Headquarters for the fiscal year June 1 to May 31. An individual group or organization may pay dues for an affiliate.

STRIKE 1. and SUBSTITUTE:

1. National Affiliate clubs or organizations of NGC shall pay dues of thirty dollars (\$30.00) and International Affiliate clubs or organizations of NGC shall pay dues of fifty dollars (\$50.00) and shall be submitted with the membership application. An individual, group or organization may pay dues for an affiliate.
 - a. Dues shall be paid annually to NGC Headquarters for the fiscal year June 1 to May 31.
 - b. Affiliate member organizations failing to remit dues prior to June 1 of the following year shall forfeit membership.

- c. The fee for affiliate membership reinstatement shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Proviso: Effective June 1, 2017 and subject to adoption of bylaw amendments to increase National Affiliate and International Affiliate dues.

Motions

Motion by Kitty Larkin to amend 1.c. by striking c. was defeated 85 in favor and 102 opposed.
Motion by Judy Bond to amend 1.b and 1.c. by inserting the word “International” before the word “affiliate” was adopted 89 in favor and 80 opposed.

Motion by Mary Sue Colvin to amend 1.c. by striking \$100 and inserting \$50 was pending when a motion by Jeanette Pruin to Refer Standing Rules Amendment 1. with all amendments to the Finance Committee for further study was ADOPTED. The Finance Committee is to present their recommendations at the May, 2015 Board Meeting.

REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE

Recess

President Robinson recessed the meeting at 11:45 a.m. for luncheon.

Reconvene

President Robinson reconvened the Board of Directors’ Meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Standing Rules
Amendments Continued

2. **Page 1, Awards**

INSERT new #1:

- 1. State Garden Clubs and Affiliate Member Organizations failing to remit NGC dues by October 31 shall be excluded from all NGC Awards.

ADOPTED

3. **Page 3, Awards, #10**

CURRENTLY READS:

- 10. The NGC Awards Chairman shall send six copies of the NGC Awards booklet to the NGC Headquarters after each NGC Convention.

STRIKE and RENUMBER #1 - #11

ADOPTED

4. **Page 3, Blue Star Memorial Markers**

ADD #4.

- 4. NGC expanded the Blue Star Memorial Markers Program to allow Gold Star families under the direction of the NGC Blue Star Memorial Markers Program to sponsor, fund and place Markers bearing a Gold Star; the word “Blue” will be changed to “Gold” where applicable; and the tribute wording will read: *A tribute to Gold Star families who have lost a loved one defending the United States of America.*

ADOPTED

5. **Page 5, Environmental Studies School, #1**

CURRENTLY READS:

- 1. The current edition of the *Environmental Studies School Handbook* (1997) is the authority and is available from Member Services. The concept for a new school Handbook must be approved by the Executive Committee.

STRIKE (1997)

6. **Page 11: Landscape Design Schools #1**

CURRENTLY READS:

- 1. The current edition of the *Landscape Design Study, Operations Guide* (1999) is the authority and is available from Member Services. The concept for a new school Handbook must be approved by the Executive Committee.

STRIKE (1999)

5. and 6. ADOPTED

7. **Page 11, *Keeping in Touch*, #1**

CURRENTLY READS:

1. *Keeping in Touch* is a quarterly publication sent between issues of *The National Gardener* to the members of the NGC Board of Directors, local Club Presidents and District Directors.

INSERT word "electronically" between words "sent" and "between"

STRIKE #3 and RENUMBER #4 to #3

3. The editor shall send a copy-ready disk to NGC Headquarters for printing and mailing. Three bids for printing shall be secured by Headquarters per administration. The bid selected by the Finance Committee shall be submitted for approval by the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

ADOPTED

8. **Page 10, *Headquarters-Executive Director*, #11**

CURRENTLY READS:

11. The Editor of *The National Gardener* shall receive Calls, Minutes of Board of Directors Meetings and NGC Convention, Bylaws and Standing Rule changes, as well as Flower Show School and Award Committee Directives and any other changes or information which could be of assistance in keeping membership informed.

STRIKE "Flower Show School" and **INSERT** "NGC Schools"

ADOPTED

Future Annual Conventions Report Meetings

Convention Coordinator Becky Crow and Vice-Coordinator Pat Abercrombie reported on dates of future NGC Conventions:

- 2016 - Grand Rapids, Michigan - May 2 to May 6
- 2017 - Richmond, Virginia - May 18 to May 20
- 2018 - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - May 21 to 24
- 2019 - Biloxi, Mississippi - April 30 to May 4
- 2020 - TBA

Future Fall Board Meetings

Fall Board Meeting Coordinator Robin Pokorski and Vice-Coordinator Dave West reported on future Fall Board of Directors' Meetings:

- 2016 - Portland, Maine - September 19 to September 25
- 2017 - St. Louis, Missouri - TBA
- 2018 - Orlando, Florida - September 25 to 30
- 2019 - St. Louis, Missouri - TBA
- 2020 - North Carolina - TBA

Invitation to 2016 Convention

The invitation to attend the 2016 Annual Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan on May 2 to May 6 was issued by Marge McGoff, Convention Chair.

Final Report of the 2015 NGC Convention

Ann M. Fiel, Chairman of the 2015 NGC Annual Convention in Louisville, Kentucky gave the preliminary report of the 2015 convention.

ADOPTED

Committee Chairmen's Reports

The following Chairmen reported (copies on file):

- Nancy C. Voyles, Nominating Committee Chairman
- Becky Hassebroek, President's Special Project Bee A Wildlife Action Hero Chairman
- Andrea Little, Blue Star Memorial Markers Chairman
- Greg Pokorski, ES, GS, and LD Schools Coordinator, GS Schools Chairman
- Jim Mullen, Land & Water Conservation Chairman

Shirley A. Tetreault 11/30/15
Shirley A. Tetreault, Recording Secretary Date

Sandra H. Robinson 11/30/15
Sandra H. Robinson, President Date

Nancy L. Hargroves 11/30/15
Nancy L. Hargroves, First Vice-President Date

Gay L. Austin 11/30/15
Gay L. Austin, Second Vice-President Date

Robin Pokorski 11/30/15
Robin Pokorski, Corresponding Secretary Date