

#600-1047

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
NINETY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**Embassy Suites By Hilton Charleston Convention Center, North Charleston, SC
Wednesday and Thursday, May 21-22, 2025**

Call to order and welcome: President Brenda Moore called the ninety-fourth Convention of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, May 21, 2025.

Introductions: President Moore introduced those seated on the dais.

Presentation of Colors: The Presentation of Colors were performed by the North Charleston Police Department.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States: Led Gerry St. Peters, TNG Editorial Review Chair'

Inspiration: The Inspiration was given by Susie Middleton, President of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.

Welcome to State: David Stoudenmire, Jr., President of the Garden Club of South Carolina, Inc. welcomed us to the state.

The Mayor of North Charleston, Reginald Burgess, also welcomed us to North Charleston.

Adoption of Preliminary Credentials Report: Suzanne Potts, Chairman of the Credentials Committee reported that as of 10:10 AM on Wednesday May 21, 2025, the voting strength was 253. The Credentials Report was adopted, and the report is on file.

Quorum: The Chair declared a quorum present.

Adoption of Rules of the 2025 Convention: Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian. The rules of the 2025 Convention were adopted as stated.

Adoption of Agenda with Appendix: The agenda, and the appendix for this meeting, were distributed by email prior to the meeting. The agenda with appendix was adopted as distributed.

Adoption of Convention Program: The program for this meeting was distributed to members in their registration packet, and was adopted as distributed.

Preliminary Registration Report: Margaret Graham, Registrar for the 2025 Convention reported that as of this morning, Wednesday May 21, 2025 we had a total of 436 attendees.

NGC Convention General Session Meeting May 21 and 22, 2025, final

Committee to approve minutes: Without objection the President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of this meeting:

Gerianne Holzman, Second Vice President, Chair
Bud Qualk, Corresponding Secretary
Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

Timekeepers: Without objection the President appointed Martha Hilton, President, West Virginia Garden Club, Inc. and Emily Shirey, Youth Organizations Committee to serve as timekeepers.

Appointment of Tellers: Without objection, the President appointed Judy Binns, FSS Chair and Audit Chair, Gwen Dewitt, Environmental School Accrediting and Marjorie Dienhart, President, The Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts, Inc. to serve as tellers.

Welcome: The President welcomed those in attendance - NGC former Presidents, current Region Directors, PH&E Trustees, NGC Executive Director, Bill Trapp and NGC Assistant Executive Director, Katie Roth.

Report of the committee appointed to approve the minutes of the 2024 NGC Convention held in Westminster, Colorado. Gerianne Holzman, Chairman of the Committee: The Minutes were approved and circulated.

Memorial Ceremony: Brenda Moore, NGC President, presented a memorial ceremony honoring members of NGC who have passed on.

Reports of all Elected, Appointed Officers and our NGC Executive Director Bill Trapp: Reports given and are on file.

Nomination and Election of Officers: Betty Cookendorfer, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Introductions were made of those serving on the Committee and the Nominating Committee has nominated the following as Officers of National Garden Clubs, Inc. for 2025 – 2027:

First Vice President	Gerianne Holzman
Second Vice President	Suzanne Andrego
Third Vice President	Susan Miner
Recording Secretary	Monica Hansen
Treasurer	Lynette Jeffres

Monica Hansen, Recording Secretary, read the bylaws pertinent to the election of officers.

As there were no other nominations from the floor, the chair declared all the above nominees elected with Donna Donnelly, President-Elect, to serve as President for 2025- 2027.

Report of the Board of Directors: Read by Monica Hansen, Recording Secretary
Report on file.

Final 2024-2025 audit report: Judy Binns, Audit Committee Chairman reported that Conner Ash, PC audited the financial statements of NGC for the fiscal year ended 2024, and they have stated that these financial statements represent a clean and efficient audit.

Adoption of the budget: Lynette Jeffres, Treasurer: The NGC 2025-2026 annual budget was included in the Convention Packet emailed to Board Members and delegates prior to this meeting. Lynette moved on behalf of the budget committee, for adoption of the 2025-2026 (FYE 2026) Budget. **ADOPTED**

Adoption of Bylaw amendments: These proposed amendments were approved by the Board of Directors at the June 4, 2024, Convention Meeting. All the proposed amendments were published on the NGC website in accordance with the notice requirements of NGC Bylaws. Refer to the Appendix to this meeting agenda that was emailed to the Board of Directors and Delegates prior to this meeting.

Bylaw Proposals – Appendix A

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Article VI - Membership, Section 2. Non-Voting Membership | ADOPTED |
| 2. Article X - Nominating Committee, Section 1. Structure | ADOPTED |
| 3. Article XVIII - Permanent Home And Endowment Trustees, Section 1- Members | ADOPTED |
| 4. Article X - Nominating Committee, Section 1-B Members | ADOPTED |
| 5. Article VI - Membership Section 2, Non-Voting Membership, B. National Affiliates, International Affiliates and Youth Gardeners. | ADOPTED |
| 6. Article IX - Duties Of Officers - Elected Officers, Section 1. President | ADOPTED |
| 7. Article XVIII - Permanent Home And Endowment Trustees, Section 2, D | ADOPTED |

Meeting recessed at 11:32 AM, EDT until 9:30 AM, EDT May 22, 2025.

Call to order: The business meeting of the Ninety-Fourth Annual Convention of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. reconvened at 9:33 AM, EDT May 22, 2025.

Reports of Committee Chairman: Reports of all are on file

Barbara Campbell - PLANT AMERICA - Landscape for Wildlife with 249 gardens certified from 34 states

Virginia Schmidt - PLANT AMERICA – Plant for Pollinators with 520 gardens certified from 45 states

Suzanne Bushnell - PLANT AMERICA, Feed America with 261 donations from 32 states for a total of 129,074.6 pounds.

Nancy Voyles – Vision of Beauty

Gerianne Holzman - *The National Gardener*

Gay Austin - World Association of Flower Arrangers

Bob Markey – Youth Committee

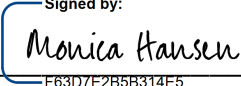
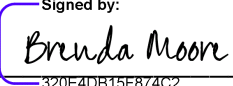
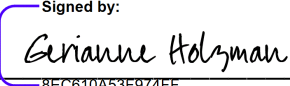
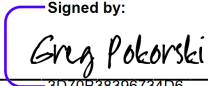
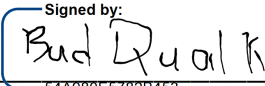
Debi Harrington – Sponsorships

Invitation to the 2026 NGC Convention: Pat Wilson, 2026 Convention Chairman, extended the invitation to next year's convention to be held in St. Louis, Missouri. The actual date TBD.

Adoption of Final Credentials Report: Suzanne Potts, Chairman of the Credentials Committee reported that as of 10:00 AM on Thursday May 22, 2025, the voting strength was 255. The Credentials Report was adopted, and the report is on file.

Final Registration Report: Margaret Graham, Registrar, reported that as of 10:00 AM on Thursday, May 22, 2025, we had total attendees of 462.

Recessed: There being no further business, the meeting was recessed at 10:04 AM. Following the installation ceremony, the meeting was adjourned sine die at 8:45 PM., EDT.

<div>Signed by:  F63D7E2B5B314E5...</div>	5/28/2025
Monica Hansen, Recording Secretary	Date
<div>Signed by:  320E4DB15F874C2...</div>	5/28/2025
Brenda Moore, President	Date
<div>Signed by:  8EC610A53F974FF...</div>	5/28/2025
Gerianne Holzman, Second Vice President	Date
<div>Signed by:  3D70B38396734D6...</div>	5/30/2025
Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian	Date
<div>Signed by:  54A980E5782B453...</div>	6/3/2025
Bud Qualk, Corresponding Secretary	Date