Homer Garden Club

Membership Meeting

October 17, 2021 Via Zoom

Meeting called to order by President Kathy Dube’.

1. Board of Directors election results:

 Kathy Dube’ – President, Jan Peyton – Co-Vice President, Sally Coleman – Co-Vice President, Louise Ashmun – Treasurer, Elaine Burgess – Historian, Connie Cavasos – Secretary, Barbara Kennedy – (Primarily) Data Base, Michael Murray – Social Secretary, Julie Parizek – Website, Paula Riley – Newsletter, Francie Roberts – Past President. Big thank you to Ruth Dickerson for her service as past Secretary. President Dube’ gives thanks to all Officers.

No new announcements.

2. Proposal to amend Constitution Sections 1 and 4 (sent in the newsletter to membership):

**Original Section 1:**

The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club and the Board, and shall perform such duties as regularly pertain to the office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Club with the exception of the Nominating Committee. ~~The President shall co-sign all checks with the Treasurer and shall select one additional co-signer from among the Board members.~~

**Proposed Section 1:**

The President shall preside at the meetings of the Club and the Board and shall perform such duties as regularly pertain to the office. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Club with the exception of the Nominating Committee.

**Original Section 4:**

The Treasurer shall collect and distribute all Club funds and keep accurate financial records. ~~The Treasurer shall also co-sign all checks and disburse such funds as needed, with approval of the board.~~ The Treasurer shall make a financial report at each Membership and Board meeting, and have the books closed and ready for annual audit by October 31st.

**Proposed Section 4:**

The Treasurer shall collect and distribute all Club funds and keep accurate financial records. To this end, the Treasurer will be the main contact for the financial institution that holds the Club funds and will ensure that three to five Board members (always to include the President and the Treasurer) are current signatories on the account. The Treasurer will ensure that the Board approves an annual budget prior to the start of each fiscal year. Expenditures not included in the budget or in excess of the budgeted amount must be approved by the Board prior to disbursement. The Treasurer shall disburse funds for approved expenditures as needed by issuing written checks or using the Club’s debit card. Expenditures in excess of $500 must be signed by two signatories or, in the case of online purchases using the debit card, witnessed by at least two account signatories at time of purchase. The Treasurer shall make a financial report at each Membership and Board meeting, prepare Treasurer’s Reports for the Newsletters, and have the books closed and ready for annual audit by October 31st.

Treasurer Louise:

This proposal was driven by computer based banking and ordering. Debit card very useful. Bank does not require 2 signatures. Motion to approve the changes as proposed, seconded. All in favor by majority of the membership; motion passes.

3. Secretary’s Report – Connie out of town with wifi issues, hence the recording of the meeting so minutes can be written at later date.

4. Treasurer’s Report – Louise: The end of FY was Sept. 30. Financials as reported in the newsletter – balance of all accounts $21,812.91. Now looking at next year’s budget. Club brought in more money in the last FY.

5. Gardener’ Weekend – Francie along with Angela, Patty and Annie are looking at July 17. Waiting to see what COVID does to finalize plans. This year a success, limited to 75 tickets (all sold), 4 gardens in Homer and 2 weeks later, 3 gardens in Kachemak City. Nice to be able to see gardens where parking was limited, received good feedback; thank you to all 7 members for opening up your gardens.

Brenda: Would like to see garden tours on the weekend so working folks can make the tours.

6. Speaker’s Committee – Sally (among others) would like presentations on preserving their harvest in different ways. Seems all are onboard with the idea of preserving. Note: chat from Bill Bell: Takshanuk Water Council in Haines presented an excellent forum with local preservation and fermentation presenters – very interesting. Brenda: have been in many meetings via zoom, seems everyone is getting used to it.

7. Baycrest Garden Committee – Brenda: garden did well. Managed to recruit 2 volunteers from Facebook page to help and had people every week.

8. Social Committee – No comment from Michael.

9. Membership – Barb: 128 members now. Time to renew memberships by January.

10. Newsletter – Paula: If you run into an interesting article or would like to write one yourself, please send in for the newsletter. Articles due by the 7th of the month.

11. Plant Sale – Nothing to report at this time.

12. Scholarship Committee – Louise and Francie communicating with school counselors. The scholarship is also available to adults. The amount has been raised to $1,000 so it could cover Master Gardener’s Class. Brenda: Class is online; we need more master gardeners. Scholarship intended to benefit gardening community. A committee would be formed to choose who would receive the scholarship.

Guest Speaker: Angela Pullen Smith – Transforming a front lawn into a Japanese Garden. Angela has been doing this for 15 years; 8 years in her current home. She presented elements of a Japanese garden and showed trees, fish pond, pathways, many plants and much more. The link to see her presentation will be in the newsletter. Big thank you to Angela for sharing.

Meeting adjourned by President Kathy Dube’