

Beaufort Garden Club  
General Meeting Minutes  
October 5, 2023

Refreshments were served at 9:30 to 9:50. President Rita Tomlinson called the meeting to order at 9:50. She welcomed us to our second meeting of the year in our 64<sup>th</sup> year of continuous existence since 1959 with our original founding in 1925.

Rita led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance and the Garden Club collect.

New members and then visitors were asked to stand and introduce themselves. She requested all with October birthdays to stand. Next, she requested the lifetime members to stand to be recognized.

Rita asked for the September minutes that were emailed to members be approved. Minutes were approved.

As stated by the By-laws, the Board is to present a proposed budget to the membership. The proposed budget was emailed to members October 4<sup>th</sup> for review. Rita briefly reviewed and described the Board's methodology. The budget is same as last year with a couple of tweaks. We raised more money this year than last year so we expect to cover similar expenses as incurred last year. Our 2023-24 proposed budget is similar. If we have any large unexpected expenditures the board will confer and vote whether to proceed. Anything over \$500 needs to be approved by the Board. The Arlie trip and the second bake sale are in the budget. The proposed budget was approved by all in attendance.

Rita then reviewed how to add the BGC icon on your phone with Carol Remy's assistance.

Becky Oxholm reviewed the scheduled October 10<sup>th</sup> hike at Fort Macon.

Monica Hunter and Robert Harper at 1029 Broad St were recognized as receiving the Yard of the Month award.

Deborah Van Dyken reviewed the plans for a trip to Arlie Gardens on March 25, 2024. More information available later.

Rita advised we will be having a second bake sale on BHA grounds for Public's Day on April 13, 2024 in addition to our November 18<sup>th</sup> Jumbo sale event. Lottie Tharrington gave an update on Jumbo sale. Your baked goods will need to be delivered to Bea-Coast Club house on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. Please sign up to bake if you have not.

Monica Hunter has met with town regarding Grayden Paul Park and advises the town wants us to enhance this park.

Rita advised next month she will bring everyone up to date on our sponsorship drive and on membership.

Sharon Miller introduced our speaker. Helen Aitkens, a 4<sup>th</sup> degree Ikebana master, which is a form of Japanese flower arranging. She will instruct us on manipulating leaves. She also showed us how they could be used in arrangements.

Mary Catherine Cooper led us in our plant swap.

Door prizes were awarded. Meeting was adjourned approximately 11:30.

Submitted by Carolyn Fowle