

**Pacific Region Garden Clubs, Inc.**

79<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

April 18-19, 2023, Lynnwood, WA

Embassy Suites Hotel

**Business Meeting #1**

Director Lana Finegold called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Director Lana Finegold introduced the officers, state presidents, former directors, Director-elect Carol Norquist and Alternate Director-elect Debbie Hinchey (Alaska Garden Clubs), page and timekeeper, and acknowledged Pacific Region Board of Directors members, and NGC Nominating Committee members.

California Garden Clubs, Inc. President Lynne Batchelor gave the inspiration.

Credentials Chairman Carol Norquist gave the initial credentials report with a voting strength of 42 and moved for its adoption. **Motion passed.**

Director Lana Finegold declared a quorum present with a voting strength of 42.

Convention Registrar Brynn Tavasci gave the initial registration report with 85 registered.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski read the Convention Rules of Order on pages 3-4 of the Convention Program. **Without objection, they were adopted.**

Convention Program Chairman Diane Franchini moved to adopt the Convention Program as printed. **Motion passed.**

Without objection, the Chair appointed the following committee to review the minutes of this meeting: Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski, Immediate Past Director Robin Pokorski, and Alternate Director Terry Critchlow.

Director Lana Finegold thanked the members of the Washington State Federation of Garden Clubs for hosting this meeting.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported that the minutes of the 2022 Convention in Las Vegas, NV were recorded and reviewed. **Without objection these minutes were approved as distributed on April 1, 2023.**

**Financial Reports:**

Treasurer Susan Nash reported assets of \$29,506.21 in the general checking account and \$14,404.79 in the scholarship account. A proposal to move from a yearly budget to a two-year budget to coincide with the existing two-year terms of office was presented. The proposal was sent to the Organization Study Committee to provide the language for the incoming 2023-2025 term. The vote was deferred to the 2023-2025 Executive Committee and Organization meetings.

The proposed convention budget for 2024 in Alaska as put forward by the Finance Committee was **approved by the Board of Directors.**

Corresponding Secretary Alexis Slafer reported on Third Thursday Thoughts from Lana.

Director Lana Finegold acknowledged those members serving on the NGC Board of Directors, NGC Four-Star member Brynn Tavasci and NGC Five-Star members Robin Pokorski, Jeanette Pruin, and Lana Finegold.

First-Timers (18 registered) were recognized and thanked for attending.

Memorials Chairman Daina Moore conducted a **Memorial Service**.

Meeting Recessed at 11:51 a.m.

### **Business Meeting #2**

Meeting reconvened at 9:06 a.m. Wednesday, April 19, 2023.

Introductions were made for those seated at the head table: Director Lana Finegold, Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski, Recording Secretary Diane Franchini, Director-elect Carol Norquist, Alternate Director Terry Critchlow, Historian Brynn Tavasci, Protocol Chairman Tanja Swanson, Nevada President-elect Karen Elliot, and Arizona President Judy Kennedy.

Nevada Garden Clubs President-elect Karen Elliott gave the inspiration. Without objection, the Chair appointed Cheryl Drumheller as timekeeper.

### **Officers' Reports**

Director Lana Finegold reported.

Alternate Director Terry Critchlow reported.

Director's Citations were given to Terry Critchlow, Brynn Tavasci, Diane Franchini, Jeanette Pruin, Dorrie Carr, Launa Gould, Susan Nash, Charlotte Tucker, Joan Craig, Lori Robinson, Tory Bennett, and Judy Unrine.

Recording Secretary Diane Franchini reported.

Corresponding Secretary Alexis Slafer reported.

Historian Brynn Tavasci reported.

Parliamentarian Greg Pokorski reported.

Advisor Robin Pokorski reported.

Webmaster Launa Gould reported.

Terry Critchlow reported for *WACONIAH* Editor Vicki Yuen.

### **State Presidents' Reports**

Washington – Anne Sullivan reported.

Arizona – Judy Kennedy reported.

California – Lynne Batchelor reported.

Oregon – Cheryl Drumheller reported.

Nevada – Karen Elliot reported for Marcia Brown.

Alaska – Sharron Jordan Carlson reported.

No reports from Idaho and Hawaii.

**A recess was taken from 10:31 a.m. to 10:42 a.m.**

### **Organization Study Committee Proposed Bylaws Changes**

Organization Study Committee Chairman Greg Pokorski presented proposed changes to the Bylaws as distributed by email on April 4, 2023. On behalf of the Organization Study Committee a motion was made to adopt the Bylaws changes. **Motion passed. See attachment.**

Organization Study Committee Chairman Greg Pokorski presented proposed changes to the Bylaws, not distributed prior to the meeting, regarding the move from a 1-year to a 2-year budget. On behalf of the Organization Study Committee a motion was made to adopt the Bylaws changes. **Motion passed unanimously. See attachment.**

### **Committee Chairmen Reports**

Backyard Wildlife Habitats Chairman Linda Hass reported.

Environmental Concerns Chairman Lori Robinson reported.

GEMS Chairman Terry Critchlow reported.

Life Membership and Photo Phundraiser Contest Chairman Tanja Swanson reported.

Educational Schools Chairman Greg Pokorski reported.

Sustainable Consumption Co-Chairman Gail Vanderhorst reported.

Convention Tulip Tour Chairman Terry Critchlow reported.

Memorials Chairman Daina Moore reported.

Smokey Bear/Woodsy Owl Chairman Charlotte Tucker reported.

Scholarships: Robin Pokorski reported for Kristie Livreri and Martha Smyser.

### **Report from the Board of Directors**

#### **Recording Secretary Diane Franchini reported:**

Since the 2022 Convention, the Board of Directors:

1. Accepted several resignations from the Board and approved the appointment of replacements.
2. Approved Debbie Hinchey as the 2024 Convention Treasurer with authorization to sign checks on the PRGC Convention/Event account.
3. Approved the 2024 Convention budget.
4. Approved amendments to the Standing Rules.
5. Approved amendments to the Convention Procedures.
6. Accepted the Financial Review report regarding the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

### **Convention 2024 Invitation**

2024 Convention Chairman Carol Norquist and members of the Alaska Federation of Garden Clubs extended an invitation to the 2024 Convention in Anchorage, Alaska. (presented after the lunch break)

### **Announcements**

Director Lana Finegold announced that Carol Norquist and Debbie Hinchey were elected to serve as 2023-2025 Director and Alternate Director, replacing 2021-2023 Director Lana Finegold and Alternate Director Terry Critchlow. Mary McKinnon will be the 2023-2025 Treasurer, replacing the 2021-2023 Treasurer Susan Nash.

NGC Nominating Committee members for the 2023-2025 term elected by Nevada and Alaska are Vicki Yuen (Nevada) and Chris Wood (Alaska).

The meeting recessed at 11:36 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:16 p.m. following the Awards and Installation Banquet.

Credentials Chairman Carol Norquist gave the final credentials report and moved for its adoption with a voting strength of 45. **Motion passed.**

Convention Registrar Brynn Tavasci gave the final registration report with 85 registered.

Resolutions Chairman Joan Craig, with Sue Bennett and Robin Pokorski, presented the Courtesy Resolution and moved for its adoption. **Motion passed.**

WSFGC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Dorrie Carr gave the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:01 p.m., *sine die*.

Diane Franchini *Diane Franchini* Date February 12, 2024

Recording Secretary

Approved by:

Greg Pokorski, Parliamentarian

Terry Critchlow, Alternate Director

Robin Pokorski, Advisor

**Attachment 1**  
**Proposed Bylaws Amendments Distributed by Email on April 4, 2023**

**BYLAWS**  
**PACIFIC REGION GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**

Page 2:

Section 1. The **Region Director shall** (see Standing Rule #1 Region Director for additional duties):

- a. Serve on the NGC Executive Committee per NGC Bylaws Article XIV, Sections 1 A. and B.
- b. Serve on the NGC Board of Directors per NGC Bylaws Article XV, Section 1.
- c. Appoint officers as follows: Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, *WACONIAH* Editor and Website Chairman.
- d. Appoint chairmen corresponding to NGC Chairmen and others as needed.
- e. Arrange for an updated roster of officers and chairmen.

f. Notify states next in order for Region Director, Alternate Region Director, and NGC Nominating Committee Members prior to September 1 in odd-numbered years. States elect candidates in even-numbered years.

g. Appoint a Financial Review Committee each term and assure that the financial review is conducted after the close of each fiscal year and reported on at the next meeting of the board of directors.

Section 5. The **Treasurer** shall:

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h. File annually with the Nevada Secretary of State the required list of officers along with payment of the annual corporation fee by the last day of February each year with the Nevada Secretary of State.

Section 10. The **State Presidents** shall (See Standing Rules Section 4 for additional duties):

a. The incoming state president shall send the state roster to the incoming Region Director and the incoming Alternate Region Director as soon as available.

b. Advise State Treasurer to send PRGC Dues of \$30 per the maximum number of delegates allowed for the state, as in NGC Bylaws Article XII, Section 2.B, to the PRGC Treasurer. Dues are due June 1, delinquent September 1 of each year.

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## **ARTICLE X - NGC NOMINATING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Section 1. Nominating Committee ~~Members~~ Member positions shall be filled by rotation among the states. (See Standing Rules Section 2 for rotation list.)

Section 2. Eligibility: NGC Bylaws shall be adhered to. NGC Bylaws Article X NOMINATING COMMITTEE, Section 1. - STRUCTURE, B. Members (See Standing Rules Section 2.)

a. PRGC shall provide two Members to serve on the NGC Nominating Committee.

b. The two states next in rotation order for providing NGC Nominating Committee Members shall each elect one eligible member to serve as Member.

c. The names of the persons elected for each position shall be submitted to the Region Director to send to the NGC Nominating Committee Vice Chairman, President-Elect and the Administrative Assistant no later than 12 weeks prior to the NGC Convention in the odd-numbered year prior to service.

d. In the event the state whose turn it is to elect a Member does not have an eligible candidate, the Region Director shall be notified and then request the state that follows in rotation to fill the position.

e. A state that cannot fill the position of Member loses its turn in rotation and shall wait until the next rotation to provide a Member.

f. No state shall have two Members serving on the NGC Nominating Committee at the same time (other than the NGC Nominating Committee Chairman and Alternate Vice Chairman if from PRGC).

## **ARTICLE XI – CONVENTIONS**

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Section 7. Minutes of the Annual Pre-Convention Meeting of the Board of Directors must include the name of the treasurer of the following year's convention with the authorization to sign checks on the Convention/Event account.

**Attachment 2**  
**Proposed Bylaw Amendment Not Distributed Prior to Convention**

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**ARTICLE XII – FINANCES**

Section 3. ~~An annual~~ A biannual budget for the term for all funded activities shall be prepared ~~by the Region Director, Treasurer and one other member appointed by the Region Director in even-numbered years, and~~ by the outgoing and incoming Region Directors and Treasurers and one other member appointed by the outgoing Region Director ~~in odd-numbered years~~. The proposed budget shall be presented for approval at the Executive Committee and Organization Board of Directors meetings ~~prior to the Annual Convention of the new term in odd-numbered years~~.