



Annual Meeting • January 24, 2022 Agenda

Call to order – 6pm: Jeff Chambers

Pledge of Allegiance: Jeff Chambers

Recognition of recording devices:

Welcome/Presidents Report – Jeff Chambers

Highlights of the past year-
Partnership with the City of PSI highlights-
Looking forward to the future-

Treasurer's Report – Brenda Gustafson

Committee Reports:

Standing Committees – Please keep it to 3-5 minutes

- Resource Development
 - Events – Heather Furnari
 - Botanica – Jeff Chambers
 - Outreach – Judy Nash-Wade
 - Communication/ Marketing/ PR – Jeff Chambers
 - Art Show, Newsletter – Mark Barnes
 - Grant Awards – TBD
- Gift Shop – Laura Mehr
- Membership/Volunteer – Mark Barnes
- Horticulture – Brenda Gustafson
- Strategic Planning – Art Pearlstein

Election Committee Report: Stephanie Alessandrini-Giaraffa

- Adoption of the 2021 Annual Minutes
- Vote Report: Votes - _____ / Quorum - _____
- Election Results:
 -

Motion to adjourn:

Respectfully submitted by
Mary Petrone, Recording Secretary



Annual Meeting • January 25, 2021 Minutes

Call to order – 6pm: Heather Furnari

Pledge of Allegiance: Heather Furnari

Recognition of recording devices: Richard McAfoos and Mary Petrone

Call to order: Beth Willard, John Erickson, Jeff Chambers, Judy Nash-Wade, Mary Petrone, Tim Sutton, Laura Mehr, Dale Johnson, Heather Furnari,

Welcome/Presidents Report – Heather Furnari

Highlights of the past year:

Following the temporary closure of FPSLBG due to COVID which required all public and private events to be cancelled, the gardens re-opened albeit with shortened Pavilion hours and a slow return of public and private events continues. The following events have returned in full or partially: All Volunteers, The Jazz Club, Drum Circle, and Church services, please refer to the website calendar for a complete listing.

Partnership with the City of PSL highlights:

This year the City of PSL Parks and Recreation Department placed a security fence around the propagation area, constructed a permanent mulch station, made upgrades to the irrigation system, remodeled the Pavilion kitchen, Upgraded the outside electric circuit increasing the number of stations (pods) from which electric service is accessible; internal electric circuits and lighting were upgraded or replaced with LED lighting and dimmers.

Looking forward to the future:

As *The Port* development gains momentum, the City of PSL continues to support FPSLBG recognizing the impact of our contribution to the community and public.

Treasurer's Report – Brenda Gustafson

Despite the temporary closure and continued public concerns to COVID, FPSLBG finances remained positive through the prudent use of FPSLBG funds. An endowment fund with Fidelity was opened this year for the perpetual sustainability of the organization. Yearly contributions will be made to this.

Committee Reports:

Standing Committees –

- Resource Development
 - Botanica – Tim Sutton -
This event is scheduled; previous vendors are returning. Volunteers are needed to help with organizational tasks on the days before, during and after this event. Some Garden Clubs have returned to their previous (COVID) meeting schedules.
 - Membership/Volunteer – Judy Nash Wade
Membership – 330 active members; approximately 100 lost due to attrition; 36 Ten-year members sold to date.

o Volunteers - CORE volunteers are returning following a COVID pause to the program. CORE volunteer assistance has expanded to Garden Club areas. Garden room volunteers are now being spotlighted with an article on them in the newsletter, as well being recognized on the 'Welcome Board' found in the reception area. There is an ongoing orientation for new volunteers, titled "Inside the Garden Gate". Electronic recording of volunteer hours occurs through "Track It Forward". Using a mobile app, volunteers can submit their hours on a regular basis. Currently, 2020 has over 8500 recorded volunteer hours. This is equivalent to \$205,000 in costs.

o Art Show, Newsletter – Mark Barnes

The Newsletter is now in a magazine format, between 28 and 32 pages a month. Persons new to the garden and interested in reading the magazine can now access it through a QR code found in the reception area. The Art Show event hosted 6-7,000 persons attending. Next year's Art-In-The-Garden showed is slated for January 8-9, 2022. Art Show committee volunteers are needed.

- Grant Awards – Heather Furnari

Florida Wildflower Foundation has awarded 1500.00 to FPSLBG to restore the Native Garden. A grant to provide plant identification was received this year and is moving to completion by the middle of 2021.

- Gift Shop – Laura Mehr

Despite being closed for 7 months due to COVID, the Gift Shop ended with an income of \$13,000.

Since reopening, the gift shop has experienced an increase in visitor traffic and subsequent sales. The Gift Shop now features work by local artists. The shop has also been renamed, "The Garden's Gate".

Merchandise is now available with a FPSLBG logo.

- Horticulture – Brenda Gustafson

Following the re-opening of garden rooms, the garden center persevered well with the experience of seasonal volunteers. Cosmetic changes have occurred in the propagation area that range from the whimsical to decorating ideas using plants and common household items.

Plant sales for 2020 have yielded a profit of \$18,000.

Election Committee Report: Stephanie Alessandrini-Giaraffa

- Adoption of the 2020 Annual Minutes by the board - motion made J. Chambers; motion carried.

- Stephanie Alessandrini-Giaraffa reported that the Membership has voted to approve the minutes by 78 votes. o There remains an open seat on the board that will be filled by recommendation of the current board members next month.

- Vote Report: Votes - 80 / Quorum - 66 .

- Election Results:

- o Mark Barnes 65

- o Valerie Davis-Bailey 45

- o Laura Mehr 63

- o Judy Nash-Wade 51

- o Arthur Pearlstein 40

- o KC Shore 13

- o Beth Willard 27

- o 27 proxy votes sent, 4 received.

Motion to adjourn:

Respectfully submitted on 4/4/2021 by Mary Petrone, Recording Secretary