

## Revisions since July 19, 2023 disbursement

1. Meghan Calaway was corrected to read Meghan Shepard in two (2) locations on July 19, 2023.
2. Corrected 11 of 15 voting members were present to read 11 of 16 voting members. This was corrected to reflect Karen Jean Lowe has having voting privileges as Past President. July 21, 2023. Additionally, page numbering and count were added to the bottom of each page.

## Special Annual Meeting of Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc.

**July 17, 2023** The Zoom meeting convened at 10:11 AM, MDST. The meeting was recorded through Zoom.

Charlene Hammons, SW District Director conducted the meeting.

- Charlene Hammons thanked all those present for their attendance and showing their willingness to step up and help move Garden Clubs of Idaho, Inc. (GCII) forward. Charlene also thanked Kathylu Szabo for using her personal Zoom account for setting up the meeting.

- Roll Call was taken to identify the voting members present.

Molly Graeber – President of Roberts Town and Country

Linda Carter Beck – President of Idaho Falls, and Acting SE Director

Robyn Dawson – President Chinden Garden Club

Sharon Viorel – President Nampa Garden Club

Marie Elven – President of NezPerce Garden Club

Diane Roberson – VP of Owhyee Garden Club – voting the proxy for Anna Ousley who is President of Owyhee Garden Club

Denise Lile – VP of Golden Garden Club – voting the proxy for Pamela Lowe who is president of Golden Garden Club

Kathylu Szabo – Clearwater District Director and voting the proxy for Cheryl Pankey who is President of Valley Garden Club

Charlene Hammons – Southwest District Director

- 11 of 16 voting members were present and represented a quorum for conducting business (a quorum for a special meeting, per GCII Procedures Manual, is a majority of members allowed to vote).

- Nampa Garden Club and Chinden Garden Club had club members in attendance who did not have voting privileges. Those in attendance from Chinden Garden Club: Kathy Wojcik, Tom and Karen Martin, and Jane Balleisen. From Nampa Garden Club: Kerry Norris, Ann Partida, Linda Kelso. Starr Rausch from Nampa Garden Club joined the meeting later.

- Charlene Hammons reported on the vote that was taken by the Temporary Executive Committee (i.e.: District Directors) that concluded on July 14, 2023. The motion voted on was to remove all Executive Board Members. The vote was 11 yes votes of a possible 15 votes to remove the officers from their position. These Past Executive Board members would not have a vote for the meeting today. It was acknowledged that Karen Jean Lowe would have a vote as Past President of GCII. Karen Jean Lowe was not in attendance at this Zoom Meeting.

- Charlene Hammons reported that late in the evening of July 16, 2023, she received bios from Becky Loomis for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of GCII, and Vicki Torres for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of GCII. Previously, bios had been sent out for Tom Martin for President, Meghan Shepard for Treasurer and Karen Martin for Secretary. There was a full slate of officers.

- Molly Graeber from Roberts Town and Country expressed concern that the voting for officers was being rushed and she thought that there might be other people interested in holding an office. Tom Martin, former SW District Director reported that he had started visiting all clubs in the SW District in February through April 2023 and shared the need for people to fill the officer positions for GCII. He asked for any interested parties to submit their name for a position, or for members to nominate other members. No response was received from any SW District clubs of people interested in an office for GCII. Kathy Szabo, the Clearwater District Director reported that at their Spring District Meeting, no one expressed interest in an office for GCII. Kathy also shared that the Clearwater Garden Clubs are fine with the current slate of officers being considered. Linda Carter Beck, acting Director of SE District reported that Vicki Torres initially showed some interest in being President but wasn't sure. At this time no club members expressed interest in being Club President of GCII. Linda Carter Beck requested clarification; she thought Amy Carson, member of Owyhee Garden Club, had submitted a bio for President. Amy Carson had withdrawn her name from consideration. Linda Carter Beck also thought Kathy Costanti, former Treasurer was interested in the Treasurer position again. It was reported that no bio was received from Kathy to confirm interest in being considered for the position of Treasurer.
- Kathy Wojcik, club member of Chinden Garden Club requested that the next officers of GCII, set goals and have a strategy of how to support the clubs.
- Linda Carter Beck, President of Idaho Falls Garden Club, asked why if people had dissatisfaction with the Officers who were voted in 2019, why did they not express them sooner. Linda also felt that the bios for potential new officers were not sent out soon enough. Linda feels that in person State Conventions are important for people to get to know other members across the state and that Zoom meetings are not efficient enough for all Idaho clubs. Linda does not feel that the President should necessarily be required to travel and that this issue should be addressed. The current GCII website should have all meeting minutes posted. The most current minutes on the website are from the 2017 Annual Convention meeting minutes and 2016 Fall Board Meeting Minutes
- Marie Elven, President of NezPerce Garden Club expressed appreciation for the bios that potential officers submitted and thanked those individuals for their interest and willingness to put the time in to serve in a position they would like to have.
- Sharon Viorel, President of Nampa Garden Club thanked the District Directors and advisors who put in time and effort to try to move the State organization forward. She also appreciated the bios for potential officers. The bios were helpful in getting to know the candidates. Sharon believes that all potential officers should submit a bio as a standard for the future.
- Robyn Dawson, President of Chinden Garden Club expressed her appreciation for the bios and that her club wants to move forward.
- Diane Roberson, VP of Owyhee Garden Club shared that she thought the bios were well done and she was thrilled that all offices had candidates. Recommendations for the future GCII officers is that there should be more transparency, regular meetings held and the minutes should be posted on the

website for clubs to access. Owyhee Garden Club would like for GCII to show their worthiness and would like to see more activities that benefit the individual clubs.

- Charlene Hammons requested a Garden Club President make a motion that the Executive Board vacancies need to be filled in order to move the organization forward. Sharon Viorel moved that we go ahead with an election, these are unique circumstances, and even though we are outside of the current bylaws, the executive board needs to be filled. Kathylu Szabo seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

- Charlene Hammons requested nominations from the floor for President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. No nominations were received from the floor. Tom Martin was declared President of GCII. , Becky Loomis was declared 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Vicki Torres was declared 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Karen Martin was declared the Secretary and Meghan Shepard was declared the Treasurer.

- Owyhee Garden Club and Moscow Garden Club have not sent in their dues as of today. They requested an address to mail their check. Linda Carter Beck confirmed that the clubs could go directly to any Idaho Central Credit Union and deposit their dues check as long as they had an account number. If clubs choose to pay their dues by depositing funds with Idaho Central Credit Union, they should send a receipt to the new State Treasurer. This address will be provided in the near future along with the GCII checking account number and any details necessary to post a deposit so that it can be recorded into the proper GCII accounting category.

- It was clarified that the position of Parliamentarian is an appointment by the President of GCII.

- Tom Martin shared remarks at the end of the meeting. Tom asked club members to reach out and show appreciation to each other. He hopes that after all the recent events, that there are no hard feelings. He will begin arrangements for a Fall Board Meeting. His goal is to try to help grow garden clubs. Plans for the 2024 Annual Convention to secure a location and date will be started. He expressed to the club presidents that GCII. officers are in service to the member garden clubs and the districts. State officers should be working and sharing to help local clubs do the things they are doing, and sharing resources so clubs can prosper and grow.

- Special Annual Meeting was closed by Charlene Hammons at 11:22 AM MDST.

Minutes submitted by acting secretary – Karen J. Martin

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Karen J. Martin

Date