

SUN CITY WEST DESERT GARDEN CLUB
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

April 9, 2024

CALL TO ORDER: President Julia Miller called the meeting to order in RH Johnson Social Hall East at 9:00 AM. There were 69 members present, and 1 guest. She told the membership how much work was being performed by the volunteers at the Garden Club greenhouse and the plant sales. She mentioned the activities of harvesting, planting, watering, set-up for sales and maintenance of the greenhouse among others. A round of applause was given to the volunteers from the membership.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Julia Miller read Karen Anderson's report, as of March 31, 2024 which stated March sales of \$11,208.00 of which 48% were credit card sales. Karen compared January through March sales in 2023 of \$20,848.00, to the same 3 months in 2024 of \$25,788.00 to show we are ahead in sales by \$4,940.00. Checking Account balance is \$54,529.87. Total cash on hand \$54,729.87. True Value March statement \$664.11. The balance due of \$1,225.00 was paid on March 12, 2024 to All Aboard America for the upcoming bus trip. Preparation of our 2023 income tax return was completed and e-filed. A copy was delivered to Kristi Constantino at the RHJ Rec Center.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Secretary read minutes of last Member Meeting February 13, 2024. They were approved.

NEW CLUB MEMBERS: 6 new club members were welcomed.

NEW BUSINESS:

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: Sandy Warmuth reported on upcoming Field Trip to Boyce Thompson Arboretum with guided tour scheduled for April 15, 2024. She also stated they may be scheduling a picnic in the coming months.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH: Mary Beth Kunz stated that the Happy Camp was very successful with 14 kids and as many adults participating. They received a tour of the Botanical Garden, a guided wildflower hunt, microscopes were used to see parts of plants and a cochineal bug, every child planted an elephant food plant to take home and they were all treated to bread shaped like saguaro cactus with prickly pear jelly. New member orientation is April 15, 2024, the Learning Lab is April 17, 2024 in the greenhouse and the April 23, 2024 workshop on how to protect plants from extreme heat with Ben McGonigle is open to all SCW residents.

GREENHOUSE: Mike Anderson stated the water wall work will be April 19, 2024 starting at 8:00 am and volunteers are needed for replacing parts and cleaning. The greenhouse will be closed that day and on April 26, 2024 for the rec center maintenance. Shade cloth will be installed on April 12, 2024 for the season.

NEW BUSINSS: Julia stated that Carol Berka would be willing to be in charge of Charitable Gifts once again and we have \$15,000.00 to donate to 501C3 organizations that support Sun City West residents. Some of the organizations being considered are Honor Flight, Valley View Food Bank, St. Mary's Food Bank, Helping Hands, The Community Fund of Sun City West, Sun City West Foundation, Meals on Wheels and the library. Suggestions from our membership are requested. A motion was made by Mary Beth Kunze and seconded by Jackie Jabens to make these donations. The motion passed.

PROGRAM: Jeanette Johnson introduced Connie Moore, Master Beekeeper from Honey Hive Farms to speak on the lives of honey bees.

DOOR PRIZES: Sandy Warmuth led drawings of 3 dish gardens made in the greenhouse. The meeting adjourned at 10:25.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Thomas, Co-Secretary