

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
2021 ANNUAL CONVENTION CONFERENCE
MINUTES

Held VIA ZOOM

Thursday May 20, 2021
10:00 am (CDT)

- Call to Order President Gay Austin called the meeting of the 2021 Annual Convention Conference of National Garden Clubs, Inc. to order at 10:04 a.m. (CDT) Via ZOOM, on Thursday, May 20, 2021, and welcomed those in attendance.
- Donna Donnelly, Recording Secretary, was present.
- Invocation Gail Corle Manna, Director, Central Atlantic Region, gave the invocation.
- Committee to Approve The President appointed the following committee to approve the minutes of the 2021 Minutes
Minutes Convention Conference:
 Brenda Moore, Second Vice-President, as Chairman
 Donna Rouch, Third Vice-President
 Andrea, Little, Historian
- Timekeepers The President appointed the following to serve as timekeepers:
 Becky Hassebroek, Membership Chairman, Finance Committee Member
 Judy Grotts, Credentials Committee
- Welcome Former The President welcomed former Presidents: Nancy Hargroves (2017-2019), Shirley Presidents
Presidents Nicolai, (2011-2013), Renee Blaschke (2009-2011), Barbara May (2007-2009), Kitty Larkin (2005-2007), Lois Dupre Shuster (2003-2005), Deen Day Sanders (1999-2001) and Eleanor Yates (1993-1995).
- Recognition of Region The President recognized the Region Directors:
Directors Suzanne Bushnell, New England; Jodi Meyer, Central; Gail Corle Manna, Central Atlantic; Linda Lawson, South Central; Patty Arndt, South Atlantic; Darla Anderson; Rocky Mountain; Lena Bateman, Deep South; Robin Pokorski, Pacific.
- Introduce Permanent Home The President presented the PH&E Trustees, 2019-2021 Administration:
& Endowment Trustees Nancy Hargroves, Shirley Nicolai, Jeanette Pruin, Barbara Baker, Jeanne-Marie Parkes.
- Reports of Officers The following officers reported:
 Gay Austin, President. Report on file.
 Mary Warshauer, President-Elect, Liaison to State Garden Club Presidents and Region Directors. Report on file.
 Brenda Moore, Second Vice-President, Finance Committee and Internal Audit Committee Chairman. Report on file.
 Donna Rouch, Third Vice-President, Organization Study and Award of Excellence Committee Chairman. Report on file.
 Donna Donnelly, Recording Secretary. Report on file.
 Lynette Jeffres, Treasurer and Budget Committee Chairman. Report on file.
 Bonnie Stockel, Corresponding Secretary. Report on file.
 Andrea Little, Historian. Report on file.
 Joan Corbisiero, Parliamentarian. Report on file.
 Nancy Hargroves, PH&E Trustees Director. Report on file.
- Reports of Region The following Region Directors reported:
Directors Suzanne Bushnell, New England. Report on file.
 Jodi Meyer, Central. Report on file.
 Gail Corle Manna, Central Atlantic. Report on file.

Linda Lawson, South Central. Report on file.
Patricia Arndt, South Atlantic. Report on file.
Darla Anderson, Rocky Mountain. Report on file.
Lena Bateman, Deep South. Report on file.
Robin Pokorski, Pacific. Report on file.

Report of the Board of Directors

Donna Donnelly, Recording Secretary presented the report of the Board of Directors: The Board of Directors of National Garden Clubs, Inc. has met two (2) times since the last Convention in 2019-

1. At the Post-Convention Board Meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi, May 2019
2. At Fall Board Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, September 2019

The Executive Committee has met nine (9) additional times to take action in place of the Board.

The members of the Board of Directors and those who have registered for this Conference have received information sheets that have been prepared by the Parliamentarian reflecting the actions taken since the last Board Meeting in September 2019. The information sheet documents are both titled:

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The Standing Rules Amendments contained in one prepared document are to be printed on **PINK** paper (and were usually distributed at the Convention Meeting).
2. All other actions taken in another prepared document are to be printed on **BLUE** paper (and were usually distributed in the Convention Delegate packets).
3. Actions approved by the Executive Committee at yesterday's May 19, 2021 meeting, and were reported verbally at this meeting by the Recording Secretary, are to be printed on **WHITE** paper.

Budget Adopted by Executive Committee

Lynette Jeffres, Treasurer, Budget Committee Chairman reported the 2021-2022 budget was adopted by mail ballot by the Executive Committee. Report filed.

Report on Bylaw Amendments adopted by Mail Ballot

Donna Rouch, Third Vice-President and Chairman of the Organization Study Committee presented the following Bylaw Amendments adopted by Mail Ballot:

Number of votes necessary for adoption of PROPOSED BYLAW

AMENDMENTS: 2/3 of votes cast: 119 votes cast or 80; 121 votes cast or 81; 122 votes cast or 82; 123 votes cast or 82.

Illegal votes are votes that were not returned to the Recording Secretary by May 1, 2021.

2. Shall the bylaw amendment to allow the Recording Secretary to serve more than one but no more than five terms like the Treasurer be adopted?

Votes cast: 123
In favor: 110
Opposed: 7
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

3. Shall the bylaw amendment to include service on the Performance Evaluation Committee as a duty of the President be adopted?

Votes cast: 122
In favor: 110
Opposed: 6
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

4. Shall the bylaw amendment to include service on the Performance Evaluation Committee as a duty of the First Vice-President be adopted?

Votes cast: 122
In favor: 108
Opposed: 8

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

5. Shall the bylaw amendment to include service on the Performance Evaluation Committee as a duty of the Second Vice-President be adopted?

Votes cast: 122

In favor: 108

Opposed: 8

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

6. Shall the bylaw amendment to include service on the Performance Evaluation Committee as a duty of the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustee Director be adopted?

Votes cast: 122

In favor: 109

Opposed: 7

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

7. Shall the "Alternate Member" be removed as a member of the Nominating Committee?

Votes cast: 123

In favor: 108

Opposed: 9

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

8. Shall service of two years as an officer of a State Garden Club be removed as a requirement for service on the Nominating Committee?

Votes cast: 122

In favor: 87

Opposed: 29

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

9. Shall the rotation continue forward if a State Garden Club passes its turn on the Nominating Committee.

Votes cast: 122

In favor: 114

Opposed: 2

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

10. In the event of a National Emergency, shall use of an Internet service that supports anonymous voting be permitted for the receiving of election ballots within 30 days by the Recording Secretary?

Votes cast: 123

In favor: 114

Opposed: 3

Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

11. Shall the NGC Board of Directors be required to approve the holding of a virtual NGC Annual Convention the same as is required to approve the time and location of an in-person Convention?

Votes cast: 122

In favor: 107

Opposed: 9
Illegal votes: 6

AMMENDMENT ADOPTED

12. Shall meetings of the Board of Directors, the Permanent Home and Endowment Trustees, all Committees and the NGC Membership be permitted to be conducted by telephone and/or through use of Internet meeting services designated by the President or the Chairman calling the meeting?

Votes cast: 123
In favor: 115
Opposed: 2
Illegal votes: 6

ADOPTED

13. Shall the requirement that Fall Board Meeting be in St. Louis in the election year be removed from the bylaws to allow for more flexible scheduling of Fall Board Meetings?

Votes cast: 123
In favor: 102
Opposed: 15
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

14. Shall the requirement that Fall Board Meeting (FBM) be held in a member State Garden Club in even-numbered years be removed from the bylaws to make scheduling of FBMs more flexible?

Votes cast: 122
In favor: 103
Opposed: 13
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

15. Shall State Presidents also be permitted to serve on the Board of Directors as Chairmen or Vice-Chairmen of future NGC Conventions or Fall Board Meetings?

Votes cast: 122
In favor: 111
Opposed: 5
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

16. Shall State Presidents also be permitted to serve as a Committee Chairman or Vice-Chairman on a NGC Standing Committee?

Votes cast: 119
In favor: 77
Opposed: 36
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT DEFEATED

17. Shall an Engagement Letter be obtained by the Internal Audit Committee for the independent auditor selected by the NGC (Internal) Audit Committee?

Votes cast: 121
In favor: 114
Opposed: 1
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

18. Shall reference to subscriptions of The National Gardener be removed from the bylaws since The National Gardener is no longer subscribed?

Votes cast: 123
In favor: 117
Opposed: 0
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

19. Shall reference to printing and mailing of The National Gardener be removed from the bylaws since The National Gardener is no longer printed or mailed?

Votes cast: 123
In favor: 117
Opposed: 0
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

20. Shall reference to NGC Life Membership contributions as a source of funding for the NGC Scholarship Fund be deleted from NGC bylaws since the Scholarship Fund no longer receives funding from Life Memberships? (Proposal #9)

Votes cast: 122
In favor: 116
Opposed: 0
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

21. Shall amendment of NGC bylaws be authorized to be conducted electronically as well as by postal mail ballot in the event a National Emergency causes the cancellation of a NGC convention?

Votes cast: 123
In favor: 117
Opposed: 0
Illegal votes: 6

AMENDMENT ADOPTED

Report on Election of
Officers for 2021-2023
Administration by Mail
Ballot

The President called on the Recording Secretary to read the Bylaws pertinent to the Election of Officers:

ARTICLE XI - ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. - ELECTIONS

E. In the event a National emergency prevents elections held at a NGC Convention, elections may be held by mail.

1. Ballots shall be sent by electronic device or postal mail to the Board of Directors by Headquarters.
2. All ballots must be received by the Recording Secretary within thirty (30) days by postal mail to be counted.
3. A plurality of the ballots returned shall determine the results.

Gay Austin, President, presented the Nominating Committee's nominations for officers of National Garden Clubs, Inc. for the 2021-2023 administration:

First Vice-President.	Brenda Moore
Second Vice-President	Donna Rouch
Third Vice-President	Donna Donnelly
Recording Secretary	Monica Hansen
Treasurer	Lynette Jeffres

The President called on the Recording Secretary to read the results of the election mail ballot tally:

RS-For the office of First Vice-President, there were 123 votes cast. Brenda Moore received 116 votes. There were no write-in candidates.

Chair-Brenda Moore has received a plurality of mail ballot votes for the office of First Vice-President. The chair declares Brenda Moore elected as First Vice-President.

RS-For the office of Second Vice-President, there were 123 votes cast. Donna Rouch received 116 votes. There were no write-in candidates.

Chair-Donna Rouch has received a plurality of mail ballot votes for the office of Second Vice-President. The chair declares Donna Rouch elected as Second Vice-President.

RS-For the office of Third Vice-President, there were 125 votes cast. Donna Donnelly received 118 votes. There were no write-in candidates.

Chair-Donna Donnelly has received a plurality of mail ballot votes for the office of Third Vice-President. The chair declares Donna Donnelly elected as Third Vice-President.

RS-For the office of Recording Secretary there were 123 votes cast. Monica Hansen received 116 votes. There were no write-in candidates.

Chair-Monica Hansen has received a plurality of mail ballot votes for the office of Recording Secretary. The chair declares Monica Hansen elected as Recording Secretary.

RS-For the office of Treasurer there were 125 votes cast. Lynette Jeffres received 118 votes. There were no write-in candidates.

Chair-Lynette Jeffres has received a plurality of mail ballot votes for the office of Treasurer. The chair declares Lynette Jeffres elected as Treasurer.

Chair-By virtue of the mail ballot votes you have elected:

Brenda Moore as First Vice-President

Donna Rouch as Second Vice-President

Donna Donnelly as Third Vice-President

Monica Hansen as Recording Secretary

Lynette Jeffres as Treasurer

Mary Warshauer who now serves as President-Elect will serve as President for 2021-2023

Congratulations to all our newly elected officers!

Future Conventions

Becky Crow, 2019-2021 Conventions Coordinator, reported on future conventions: 2022 NGC Convention will be held May 15-19, 2022, at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando Florida. 2023 NGC Convention will be held May 1-5, 2023, at The Greenbrier Resort, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Report filed.

Invitation to 2022 NGC Convention

Gina Jogan, 2022 Convention Chairman presented the dates and extended the Formal Invitation to the Annual Convention 2022 Orlando, Florida. It will be held May 15-19, 2022, at the Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, Florida. Information will be available at the September Fall Board Meeting. Report filed.

Announcements

The President thanked the NGC Virtual Resources Committee: Cherie Lejeune, Laura Grainger and Trish Bender for hosting the ZOOM meeting today.

Introduction of 2021-2022 Executive Committee

Mary Warshauer, President 2021-2023, presented the 2021-2023 Executive Committee via a ZOOM video entitled "Through our Garden Gate".

Adjournment

Gay Austin, President adjourned the Annual Convention Conference of National Garden Clubs, Inc. at 11:43 am (CDT).

Donna Donnelly 5/28/2021
Donna Donnelly, Recording Secretary Date

Gay Austin 5/29/2021
Gay Austin, President Date

Brenda Moore 5/29/2021
Brenda Moore, Second Vice-President Date

Donna Rouch 5/29/2021
Donna Rouch, Third Vice-President Date

Andrea Little 5/29/2021
Andrea Little, Historian Date