

AGG BOARD MEETING
October 7th Agenda
Atherton Town Center
History Room
Dinkelspiel Lane and Ashfield Road

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patti Spezzaferro, President
Suzanne Legallet and Mimi Hillyard, 1st VP Programs
Dana Bonham, 2nd VP Membership
Katie Blommer, Treasurer
Pam Smith, Recording Secretary
Kasey Hansen, Corresponding Secretary
Diana Bryan, Historian
Julie Douglass and Joan Sanders, Parliamentarians
Martha Woollomes, Newsletter
Carrie Drake, Website and Technology
Patti Spezzaferro, Parliamentarian

Absent

Katie Blommer, Treasurer
Kasey Hansen, Corresponding Secretary

Welcome

Patti called the meeting to order at 9:00am and welcomed the Board.

Minutes

The Board approved the September 9, 2024, Board minutes.

Old Business

California Garden Club, Inc. Update

Patti would like AGG to qualify for the CGCI's Blue Ribbon Certificate of Achievement in 2024. It would be awarded in 2025, which is AGG's 60th anniversary. To be eligible for an award, the club must earn 100 points from an extensive checklist.

The checklist includes, among many other activities, donating to CGCI's projects, attending meetings and conferences at the regional and local levels, taking organizational leadership roles, holding flower shows and garden tours, providing special content in club presentations and programming, etc. The Board was enthusiastic about the project.

Atherton Library Floral Demonstrations versus Workshops

Patti spoke with Library staff, who were happy to have AGG provide floral demonstrations instead of workshops.

The floral arrangers committee will meet after today's meeting and will present a floral demonstration in November.

Donations Update

Patti and Pam will explore ways to obtain acknowledgments and updates from AGG donation recipients.

General Meeting Forget-Me- Not Fund Announcement

Patti asked Joan Sanders to remind members about donating to the fund.

New Business

Hospitality

Patti asked the group to consider scaling down hospitality and especially to omit hot drinks at General meetings. She asked for feedback on purchasing hot drinks from Mademoiselle Collette's café at the Library.

Discussion:

- Slow and expensive –brews one cup at a time and costs \$5.00
- We could bring in Peet's, but also expensive.
- We could make coffee at home and bring it to the meeting in smaller containers.

Patti also relayed members' concerns about transporting and storing the large plastic bins and coffee maker.

Discussion:

- Some members aren't physically able to carry the large plastic Hospitality containers and coffee maker.
- Others find the electrical hook up in the History Room difficult to manage.

Leaving the coffee maker, etc. in the History Room would be a partial solution. Patti will ask Marion about this.

At the upcoming meeting, Patti will ask for a show of hands of those who want coffee at the meetings. She also suggested that we might create a separate committee just for hot drinks.

Move AGG Paper Records to Electronic Records

Patti asked the Board if AGG should move its records to digital files. Currently, years' worth of minutes, financial data, donations, etc. are stored in three-hole binders and every year passed along to new Board officers.

Patti asked how long we need to hold paper records. Financial documents need to be kept for a specific period, but couldn't they also be electronic? Save them for how many years?

Where would we store our files? On our website? There was a brief discussion about the security of AGG's website. Google Docs, which AGG has, was mentioned, but some have difficulty navigating the website.

Patti has a friend who could scan paper files into PDFs, years of financial data, minutes, donations, by-law changes, etc.

We will revisit this idea, but for now, Board members seemed comfortable with the idea of storing files on our website.

Tech Volunteer

Patti pointed out that now that we have a regular meeting place at Atherton Town Center, it would be helpful to have a tech specialist.

Discussion:

- The Library has a Tech staff member, but the Library doesn't open until 10:00am, so sometimes he may not be available.
- A Tech volunteer would help set up audio-visual presentations.
- Carrie Drake will talk with Nick Hernandez of the Library.

New Member

Dana Bonham, Membership Chair, proposed a new member to AGG.

Her name is Mary Tan, and she is recommended by Katie McCormick, who volunteers with her at the SF Asian Art Museum, and Nyna Dolby, who has worked with Mary as a floral designer on large weddings and has known her for twenty-four years. Mary is also a gardener with a knowledge of plant material and its place in floral design. "She will be a vibrant addition to the AGG," wrote Nyna.

Dana made a motion to accept Mary Tan as a new AGG member. The motion was seconded, and the Board voted, unanimously confirming her membership.

Patti adjourned the meeting at 9:35am

Respectively submitted,

Pamela D. Smith, Recording Secretary

