

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America (CSSA) • Associated Plant Society of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)

Minutes of the General Zoom Meeting, December 12, 2021

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
 M. A. Bjarkman, Vice-president & Program Co-Chair
 Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
 Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary
 Terri Straub, At-large Board Member
 Clif Wong, At-large Board Member & Newsletter Editor
 Cory Zedler, At-large Board Member
 Gary Duke, Programs Committee Chair & Speaker
 Co-coordinator
 Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair

Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison
 Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Man
 Mike Short, Communications Committee
 Chair & Webmaster

Committee Members (Tasked):

Jade Neely, Speaker Co-coordinator
 Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
 Jim Tanner, Mini-show Coordinator
 Laurel Woodley, Facebook
 Caitlin Rubia, Instagram

Our President, Maria Capaldo, began the meeting at 1:30pm. Scott Bunnell, her co-host, began recording the meeting for YouTube. She welcomed us all. Viewers can unmute themselves to ask questions at the end of the formal presentation. Questions can be posted to Chat. She asked M.A. Bjarkman to introduce today's speaker.

Program:

M.A., Program Co-Chair, introduced our speaker, John Trager, the curator of the Desert Garden at the Huntington Botanic Gardens and a 38 year employee. In his presentation, "Time for Taiwan," he discussed points of interest from his 2018 trip with his wife and son.

The Xaimen Botanical Garden grew subtropical plants and had the best succulent collection in China. The island of Xiaodengdao also had a subtropical climate with many non-native succulents. A museum was toured in Taipei, Taiwan's capital. A stay at a Taroko Village Hotel in Taroko National Park, featured the marble Taroko Gorge where temperate and subtropical native flora grew.

The presentation and Q&A session ended at 2:27pm after Maria thanked John.

December Brag and Garden Plants: Maria showed the photo submitted by Club member, Mike Short, of his favorite plant from his garden.

December Plant-of-the-Month: Maria gave a photo presentation of the Plants-of-the-Month. December's category is all of the past Plant-of-the-Year plants that members have grown. The photographs are also posted in the newsletter.

Maria advised that the next Plant-of-the-Year plant distribution will be at our February meeting.

Announcements:

January 9 Zoom Meeting: M.A. announced that there will be a Zoom presentation from Kelly Griffin on "Oaxaca meanderings in search of succulents, plants, adventures and fun." The information will be on our website where the Zoom link is always posted.

Plant-of-the-Month: Cactus: Mammillaria single-headed (the species that are generally single-headed); Succulent: Lithops and Conophytum. Maria asked that photos from members' gardens and brag plants be sent to her by January 7. She expressed that the board needs to review the Plant-of-the-Month list.

Membership:

Maria reiterated that, starting in January, we will begin collecting \$20 annual membership dues. Mike suggested that members go to the website to open the membership form and type in their information (to ensure it is legible). It can then be printed or saved to send to Bernard; or the form can be brought to our February meeting and renewed in person.

Minutes: The November Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Recording was stopped at 2:45pm.

Reports:

Show and Sale: Maria asked for someone to compose a good article for publication to assist Ann Nye's publicity efforts, particularly since the 50th Anniversary of the Society is in 2022. Terri Straub was thanked for her assistance in getting volunteers for the Sale. Maria asked to be contacted by email if anyone is able to distribute our newly-printed postcards.

The Art Center does not have enough tables for the vendors. If anyone can volunteer their truck to haul an estimated twenty six-foot tables and save the Club approximately \$500, please advise Maria. Bob Caplan may be able to use his pickup truck. Maria will check on the price of renting a U-Haul pickup.

In Person Meetings: Maria confirmed that in person meetings will take place on the second Sunday in February, March and May at the Palos Verdes Library in the Peninsula Library Community Room. There may be requirements for masking and proof of vaccination before entering.

Starting in June and thereafter, we will return to the South Coast Botanic Garden with the hall divided between meeting and office spaces, and a pathway from the kitchen doorway. Specific monthly meeting dates will be posted on our website. There are conflicts the room's availability and our meeting will not always be on the second Sunday. Maria is waiting to receive a contract and hear about the 2023 dates from Adrienne Nakashima.

There will be chairs for people and tables for vendors. We can discuss bringing refreshments (no cooking) in the future. We can no longer store anything in the kitchen. Adrienne is not sure if the Public Address System is functional, but we can use it if so.

Use of the meeting room is free of charge to our Club. In return we will be expected to contribute to the Garden's educational programs, provide plant consultation and sell at their semi-annual Garden Sale events. There will be a charge for a Sale booth and details have yet to be determined. We will base our participation in their May Sale on whether we have sufficient stock remaining.

We will not be able to hold our Show and Sale at the Botanic Garden for the near future because weekends are not available to us. Maria requested that the PVAC hold the third Sunday of April in 2023 (since Easter falls on the second Sunday). After we see how the upcoming Sale there goes, we can decide if the Center meets our needs.

Maria and Sally were commended by M.A. for their work to secure a permanent meeting location.

Treasury Report: The Treasury Report was not delivered.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and wishing everyone happy holidays. The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm.

Submitted,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary