

**NEEDHAM GARDEN CLUB BOARD MINUTES**  
**October 1, 2019**  
**(21 Board members present)**

Tri-President Jane Lischewski called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m.  
Cathie Cummings was thanked for hosting the meeting, and Nina Saltus for co-hosting.

Minutes from the September Board meeting were approved.

*Corresponding Secretary:*

Bonnie Waters stated that a card was sent to Lyn J over the summer; she is feeling better. Bonnie will send a thank you note to the neighbor at 66 Noyes Street for permitting garden club members to use the outdoor spigot when watering Noyes Garden.

*Treasurer/Finance Committee:*

Treasurer Martha Schleck emailed copies of the Treasurer's report for September. September began with \$21,028.89 in the checking account and \$280 cash on hand, for a total of \$21,308.89. Income was \$565.00, and expenses were \$1085.53. At the end of the month the checking account balance was \$20,508.36, and cash on hand was \$280, for a total of \$20,788.36.

*Communications Committee:*

Per Jane L, there was no update concerning publicity, and an email update to the Yearbook with corrections has been sent to members. Lyn J had no update re: Facebook, other than to request that committees send information and pictures relating to their activities. Nancy A stated that she is in the process updating the website, which will include updating the calendar for the fall, posting additional photos, and ensuring that the posting of minutes and reports is up-to-date.

*Community Outreach Committee:*

Lynne J stated that planning for the October 24 Garden Therapy at Briarwood is underway. It will take place in the afternoon, time TBA. She reported that the library urns are still looking good. Karen stated that she has replacement arrangements planned for later in the fall. Lynne also thanked those who helped with watering Noyes Garden.

With respect to Noyes Garden, Cathie stated that a fall clean-up will be done, and asked those present to think about native plants which could be added to the garden in the spring. She suggested plants which tolerate both sun and shade, preferably late summer or fall bloomers which have a bright color so as to be visible from a distance.

*Flower Arranging Committee:*

Lyn J stated that for the October mixer, card table-sized space will be marked out for each team so that immediately after the business meeting, teams can start creating their tablescapes. The teams will have approximately one hour – from 10:00 to 11:00 — to create their designs. For the Distinguished Career Award event at the high school, Lyn stated that those wishing to assist with the twelve table arrangements are welcome to meet on Oct 23 at 3:00 p.m. *[where?]* The arrangements will then be dropped off at the high school on the following day at 4:00 p.m.

*Horticulture Committee:*

Karen T informed the Board that the chalk painting workshop was full. An amaryllis planting workshop is being planned for Nov 7 at Karen's home. Also on Nov 7 is a bow making

workshop scheduled for 10:30 a.m at Lynne B's home. Karen also shared that the committee is considering planning 'road trips' (day trips) to one or more of the area gardens featured in The Garden Tourist, by Jana Milbocker.

*Hospitality Committee:*

Cathy F stated that 47 people are signed up for the October luncheon. Names were reviewed to ensure that all who had signed up are members.

*Membership Committee:*

Debbie W circulated a blank page and address labels with contact information for the 6 new members, so that they can be easily added to each Yearbook. It is believed that one member has moved to Maryland, but contact info for her is not current; this will be followed up on. The new members have been assigned to committees as follows: Marilyn C – Hospitality; Amy L and Gerry D – Outreach; Janet R – Flower Arranging; Terry L – Horticulture; Martha (Mo) D-Program.

*Newsletter Committee:*

Carol stated that the deadline for submissions for the Nov/Dec newsletter is Oct 10<sup>th</sup>. Even if your information will be late, please notify the newsletter committee that you are planning to submit something so that space can be held. Also, please send photos.

*Nominating Committee:*

No update.

*Program Committee:*

The September program was well-received. Nothing else to add to previous information concerning the October mixer.

Discussion took place about when to start the business meeting, because it was felt to be unfair to have presenters start late due to the business meeting running late, and then to have people leaving before the end of the presentation. It was agreed that the coffee hour will start at 9:30 as it presently does, the business meeting will start at 9:40, and the presentation will start at 10:00, as it is advertised. Every effort will be made to start and end the business meeting promptly.

*Ways and Means Committee:*

Diana reported that the greens and wreaths have been ordered. Ten fewer wreaths have been ordered this year for a total of 72. She ordered fewer wreaths with pine cones, and some 'lush' wreaths without pine cones. Shopping for other supplies has already been done. Diana stated that she was told "mini boughs" for garlands have been very popular. Other board members brought containers and cut hydrangeas to dry and use at the sale; additional hydrangeas and dried sedum also welcome. The group expressed a desire for umbrella pine greens, if possible. Diana stated that she is experimenting with dried citrus peels for use as decorations. The Wreath and Arrangement Sale is scheduled for Dec 7. It was noted that this is the same day as the Needham Holiday Stroll and the Blue Tree lighting. Diana informed the Board that on the Friday afternoon after Thanksgiving, an advent wreath will be made for the Congregational Church, and thus some greens will be needed early.

The Board also was reminded that jewelry is still being collected. A request was made for an email reminder to bring jewelry before the next meeting.

*Old Business:*

1. Festival of Trees update – A tree skirt made by Diana was shown to the group; one side features woodland creatures, the other has red and green patterns. It was noted that the Festival of Trees starts the day after Thanksgiving (this year, Nov 29). For under the tree, Lyn J stated that the following was planned: a gift certificate to Wellesley Booksmith; a copy of Jan Brett's The Mitten, in hardcover and board book forms; a copy of Jan Brett's newest book; and two stuffed hedgehogs. Further discussion included: the need for a tree topper (perhaps a mitten or red hat with a small woodland creature tucked into it); that the addition of several red hats would add pops of color to the tree; that additional animals are needed, specifically owls, hedgehogs, rabbits, moles, badgers, foxes, bears and moose.
2. The group was reminded that sign-up sheets should be so marked when events are for members only.

*New Business:*

1. The GCFM is holding a meeting on Oct 30.
2. Discussion occurred about the registration deadline for the MFA's Art in Bloom, which takes place in late April. It was agreed that, in conjunction with the January program 'Behind the Scenes at the MFA,' members will be asked if they would like to participate.
3. Fabienne requested that members bring plastic or styrofoam faux lemons and/or oranges to the wreath and arrangement workshop to use as decorative elements.
4. Ways and Means should have 2 cases of oasis available for the workshop for the arrangement sale. Martha may be able to get some from Jacobson's.

The meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Brand, Recording Secretary

Present: Nancy Agler, Carol Alper, Lynne Braley, Jane Brand, Anne Carlson, Diana Conroy, Cathie Cummings, Cathy Flaherty, Nancy Gallerani, Carole Grosberg, Pat Hession, Lyn Jekowsky, Lynne Jones, Jane Lischewski, Fabienne Madsen, Eileen Mecagni, Nina Saltus, Martha Schleck, Karen Taggart, Bonnie Waters, Debbie Wentworth.