

Needham Garden Club Board Minutes

November 7, 2017

(17 Board members present)

President Nancy Agler called the meeting to order at 9:47 a.m. She thanked Debbie Wentworth and Sally Toran for assisting her with hosting duties.

Recording Secretary – A motion was made to accept the October Board Meeting minutes; said motion passed.

Corresponding Secretary Cathy MacFarlane updated the Board concerning recent illnesses and health status of members. She also circulated the book which has been purchased for the library in Peggy Hagerott's memory. Cathy reminded the Board that the next Board meeting would be January 2, 2018.

Treasurer Martha Schleck provided Treasurer's Report for October. Beginning checking account balance in October was \$23,140.24 and cash on hand was \$280.00, for total of \$23,420.24. Total income for October was \$40.00, and total expenses for October were \$2419.68. Ending checking account balance was \$20,760.56 and cash on hand was \$280.00, for total of \$21,040.56.

Community Outreach Co-chair Debbie Wentworth informed the Board that the next outreach event is Garden Therapy at Avita (a memory loss facility) on Greendale Ave. The room at Avita is small and will accommodate a maximum of 12 participants. We have 7 volunteers which will likely be enough, but per Diana's suggestion some alternates might be helpful. Briarwood's Garden Therapy went well, as did the Noyes Garden bulb planting (of crocus and daffodil bulbs).

Flower Arranging Co-chair Anne Carlson noted that the October table designs were very creative. Following discussion, it was agreed that the October table design event is a fun mixer at the start the program year and should be continued, and that open ended design themes are easier for the participants than getting approval of specific design ideas, which can create a time lag.

Horticulture Co-chair Cathie Cummings stated that at the next meeting the Horticulture Corner will display holiday and winter blooming plants. Amaryllis and paper whites will be given away at an opportunity drawing; other plants will be for display only. Growing tips will also be provided, and distributed via email and/or on the website. The March program will be a workshop about "things made with herbs," and will include tips on growing and storing herbs. The plant challenge will be basil, and for those who are successful, they will be encouraged to provide plants for the plant sale. The workshop will be free but will require sign-up, and will take place at the library in lieu of the meeting on March 20. Details will appear in the Jan/Feb newsletter.

Hospitality Co-chair Mary Toran informed the Board that a gallon bag of recently purchased decaf tea was taken from the library. Mary noted that the wreath workshop would run on Friday, Dec. 1 from 9-5, and the wreath sale would run on Saturday, Dec. 2 from 9-1. The Hospitality Committee and the Board will furnish light bites, snacks and paper goods. It was agreed that sandwiches would be provided for Friday only. No food will be provided for the public on Saturday, other than possibly a basket of candy canes for children, and any leftover snacks from Friday.

Membership Co-chair Sally Toran stated that a new member, Ellen Waltzman, has joined the club. Ellen's contact information was circulated. Ellen reportedly has expressed an interest in creating centerpieces for Jewish shoppers at the wreath sale. Ellen was placed on the hospitality committee; her mentor will be Mary Toran.

Newsletter Co-chair Carol Alper stated that the next deadline for newsletter submissions is December 10. She will try to get the newsletter out a few days before the 1st, and to that end would appreciate receiving submissions

as far in advance of Dec 10th as possible. It also was agreed that sending the May 1st newsletter out early would be helpful due to the program changes.

Nominating Co-chair Lynne Braley -- No update.

Program -- Though no co-chairs were present, it was noted that the November 21 guest, Anna Holmes, would share her expertise concerning various styles of flower arranging.

Publicity Co-chair Gail Davis stated that an article for the upcoming program has been sent to both local papers. Gail spoke with the editor of the Needham Times and learned that the editor makes all decisions regarding calendar entries, and tends to include events which will appeal across a variety of towns. She emphasized to him that the program is open to the public and is not limited to Needham residents. Flyers will be made for the wreath sale and should be circulated via bcc emails and Facebook.

Ways and Means Co-chair Jane Lischewski – Wreaths and greens will be delivered to Janice on Nov. 27, and moved via truck to the church in advance of the workshop. Bow-making will take place on Thursday, November 9 at 10:30 at Lynne Braley's home. There are 10 volunteers to date; Jane will email a reminder to them. (Bows to include silver ones, pursuant to previous discussion about creating decorations which might appeal to Jewish shoppers.) For the workshop on Dec 1, 32 people have signed up. Nina stated that she has the racks, which Diana and Martha have agreed to set up. The church will be set up on Thursday afternoon from 1-5 pm for the workshop and the sale. Jane stated she will follow up re: updating the tent and yard signs.

Website Chair Nancy Agler stated that the website has been updated. She also stated that Lyn Jekowsky has set up the Facebook page and would welcome things to post – photos, flyers, etc.

Yearbook Co-chair Nina Saltus requested that contact info be kept updated.

Old business –Diana Conroy stated that Lynne, Anne and Gail will set up the tree for the Mass Hort Festival of Trees, which starts the day after Thanksgiving. Nancy noted that at the October meeting our club collected \$51 for the Penny Pines reforestation program.

New business – \$450 was donated to the club when Marie Langley died. Her daughter requested that a tree be planted in her memory. Following discussion, a motion was made to donate two winterberry shrubs to the Historical Society in Marie Langley's memory; said motion passed. Sally agreed to speak with the Historical Society about this and to facilitate the planting of the shrubs on the Historical Society's grounds as soon as possible.

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Brand, Recording Secretary.

Present: Carol Alper, Nancy Agler, Lynne Braley, Jane Brand, Anne Carlson, Diana Conroy, Cathie Cummings, Gail Davis, Cathy Flaherty, Jane Lischewski, Cathy MacFarlane, Nina Saltus, Martha Schleck, Karen Shapiro, Mary Toran, Sally Toran, and Debbie Wentworth.