

**NEEDHAM GARDEN CLUB BOARD MINUTES**  
**November 5, 2019**  
**(17 Board members present)**

Tri-President Jane Lischewski called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

Debbie Wentworth was thanked for hosting the meeting, and Martha Schleck for co-hosting.

Minutes from the October Board meeting were approved.

*Corresponding Secretary:*

No update.

*Treasurer/Finance Committee:*

Treasurer Martha Schleck emailed copies of the Treasurer's report for October. October began with \$20,508.36 in the checking account and \$280 cash on hand, for a total of \$20,788.36. There was no income for the month, and expenses were \$1372.64. At the end of the month the checking account balance was \$19,135.72, and cash on hand was \$280, for a total of \$19,415.72.

*Communications:*

Gail Davis reported that advertising for the next meeting has been submitted to the local paper. She has written the newspaper piece for the Wreath and Arrangement/Jewelry Sale. She also has prepared an email flyer pertaining to the Wreath and Arrangement/Jewelry Sale, which will be circulated to club members by Nancy A, with a request that it be passed along to five friends per member. Gail asked that when forwarding the flyer, to delete any forwarding information.

Trish Cruickshank stated there were no updates pertaining to the yearbook. She requested that any membership changes be provided to her (changes should also go to the Membership Committee and Nancy A for the website) so that changes can be tracked throughout the year. It was noted that for those members who do not have email, the newsletter should be mailed to them by the corresponding secretary.

Lyn Jekowsky asked that members keep sending items to her for posting on the club's Facebook page. She also noted that the correct house number for her address is 530, not 580.

Nancy Agler stated that with respect to the website, new photos have been posted on various pages of the website, travel updates have been posted, bylaws are in the process of being updated, and the calendar will be re-done (due to a problem when it was originally updated).

*Community Outreach:*

Lynne Jones stated that Briarwood was not expecting the garden club on the day of the scheduled garden therapy, apparently due to a new person being in charge of activities, and therefore attendance was sparse. However, a number of arrangements for the facility were prepared. Lynne has since tried several times to contact the program director, but no response has been received to date. Lynne also stated that the garden therapy at Avita is coming up later this month, on November 21. Cathie requested a volunteer to water the library urns the week before Thanksgiving; Trish agreed to do this.

*Flower Arranging:*

Lyn J and Nina expressed their hope that all enjoyed the October tablescapes mixer.

Lyn stated that due to a variety of scheduling conflicts, she, Debbie K and Martha S prepared all of the arrangements for the NHS Distinguished Career Awards event, consisting of a large podium arrangement and 12 table arrangements. Photos of same were circulated; all were impressed with the beautiful arrangements. NGC will be called upon to do this again in 3 years.

Lyn stated that the Flower Arranging Committee will be hosting a fairy garden workshop at her home on February 11. She can accommodate 15-20 people for this event. Supplies will be provided, at an anticipated cost of \$6.50 or \$9.00 for small or large gardens, respectively. Donations of plant material (e.g., moss, baby spider plants and air plants) welcome. Participants should provide their own container; any kind of container will do. A sign-up sheet will be available at the next meeting. Jane L indicated that she has containers which the committee may wish to use for the luncheon next spring.

The Committee is entertaining ideas for the May workshop at Elm Bank. Suggestions included creating fascinators, doing leaf manipulation or creating circular arrangements.

#### *Horticulture Committee:*

The amaryllis planting workshop in preparation for the Wreath and Arrangement Sale is planned for Nov 7 at Karen T's home. Cathie C, Lynne B and Fabienne agreed to take care of some planted amaryllis before the sale.

#### *Hospitality Committee:*

Cathy Flaherty stated that the Hospitality Committee would provide sandwiches on the Friday of the wreath and arrangement-making workshop; the Board will provide other refreshments and baked goods for the the workshop. A sign-up sheet for same was circulated.

With respect to the October luncheon, Cathy sought and was provided advice by the Board pertaining to next year's luncheon.

#### *Membership Committee:*

No new update. Debbie Wentworth noted that 6 new members joined last month. Gail indicated that Ellen Barnes is interested in the club.

#### *Newsletter:*

Carol Alper stated that the deadline for submissions for the January/February newsletter is December 10<sup>th</sup>, but requested that due to the holidays, all submissions be prepared and provided as soon as possible.

#### *Nominating:*

No update.

#### *Program:*

No update.

#### *Ways and Means:*

Fabienne Madsen reported that she has been spraying dried sedum and hydrangea in preparation for the Wreath and Arrangement Sale. Nina has stated that she has small hydrangea which she will spray and donate. Fabienne will make sure that some pine cones are sprayed and some left "natural." Members were asked to bring their own scissors and clippers to the workshop, as well as greens from their gardens (e.g., pines, boxwood, umbrella pine). The newsletter contained a link to suggested greens. Greens should be dropped off at the church on Thursday, Dec. 5.

Jane L stated that lawn signs for the sale are ready for pick-up after the meeting. The Board agreed that the signs could be put out immediately. Some of the larger tent signs also will be put out at various locations around town. Fabienne suggested a sign re-design for next year. Discussion also took place about the possibility of getting a banner made for hanging on the fence at Claxton Field across from the RTS.

The jewelry sale subcommittee members noted that a lot of jewelry has been collected to date; additional donations will be accepted.

*Old Business:*

1. Festival of Trees update – With respect to the Festival of Trees, Lyn stated that she and Carole G have all of the materials they need, with the exception of one large knitted white mitten, in which they would like to put a number of the stuffed animals, consistent with the story line of The Mitten. Carole will ask Diana if she would be willing and able to make such a mitten. The tree will be set up on November 19.

*New Business:*

1. Nancy and Jane L attended a recent GCFM meeting, and reiterated that the federation's theme is to plant native. Cathie C is serving as the metrowest ambassador. Jane stated that per the meeting, a major challenge facing clubs is shrinking membership.

2. Jane noted that the Wallack lecture is scheduled for May 5 at 10:00 a.m., which is the same date/time as the May Board meeting. Following discussion, a motion was made to move the May Board meeting from Tuesday, May 5 at 9:30 a.m. to Wednesday, May 6 at 9:30 a.m., due to the conflict with the Wallack lecture; said motion passed.

3. Jane L described a poetry contest for children being held by the National Garden Club Association, for which a \$1000 scholarship will be awarded. Local submission should be made to the GCFM, which will in turn forward its selection(s) to the national organization. Nancy A previously circulated an email concerning same.

4. Carole Grosberg and Debbie Kraft will represent the NGC at the MFA's Art in Bloom. Carole shared a behind-the-scenes look at participating in Art in Bloom.

5. The Cohasset Garden Club is holding its Yuletide house tour on Thursday, December 5 (which is the same date as the Wreath and Arrangement Sale set up and individual member wreath-making workshop.) Nancy A circulated an email with information concerning this event.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Brand, Recording Secretary

Present: Nancy Agler, Carol Alper, Lynne Braley, Jane Brand, Anne Carlson, Trish Cruickshank, Cathie Cummings, Gail Davis, Cathy Flaherty, Carole Grosberg, Lyn Jekowsky, Lynne Jones, Jane Lischewski, Fabienne Madsen, Nina Saltus, Martha Schleck, Debbie Wentworth.