

Needham Garden Club Board Minutes

October 4, 2022

(19 Board Members present)

Co-President Gail Davis called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. The meeting took place via Zoom.

Recording Secretary:

Recording Secretary Mary Toran previously emailed the minutes of the September 13 Board Meeting to the Board. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Corresponding Secretary:

Bonnie Waters reported that no new cards have been sent since the last meeting, but she will send a card to Debbie Wentworth to let her know we are thinking of her while her husband is recovering from illness.

Treasurer/Finance Committee:

The September 2022 Treasurer's Report was previously emailed to the Board and reflected the following: The month began with \$18,324.68 in the checking account and cash on hand of \$280.00, for a total of \$18,604.68. Income for the month was \$120.00; expenses were \$2,042.36. At the end of the month, the checking account balance was \$16,402.32 and cash on hand was \$280.00, for a total of \$16,682.32.

Flower Arranging Co-President Lyn Jekowsky stated that due to the increase in the cost of flowers, the \$25.00 allocated to each group participating in the "Tablescapes" Club Mixer, is not enough. After much discussion, a motion was made and passed unanimously to raise the amount to \$40.00 per group.

Communications Committee:

Publicity – Anne Carlson reported that she has forwarded pictures of the Club Co-Presidents and Unsung Heroes, and a roster of the Board members to the newspaper, and they should be published next week.

Yearbook – No update.

Social Media – Lyn Jekowsky reported that she has posted the Club Officers, the Scholarship Recipient and Community Outreach news on Facebook. She requested that upcoming programs be sent to her ahead of time so they can be posted.

Website – No update.

Community Outreach Committee: Co-Chair Ellen Barnes reported that all were ready to go to North Hill when she got the message they had a COVID breakout. Her Committee proceeded to create 15 beautiful baskets of flowers and delivered them to North Hill, where they were enthusiastically received. See them on Facebook! She and **Co-Chair Cathie Cummings** are in the process of changing the library urns to a fall motif and mulching the Noyes gardens for the winter. The next Garden Therapy is October 20 at Briarwood. An email will be sent out for volunteers to sign up.

Flower Arranging Committee: Co-Chair Carole Grosberg reported there are five "Tablescape" teams ready to go at the October 18 General Meeting!

Horticulture Committee: Co-Chair Terry Luskin reported that the amaryllis bulbs will be arriving soon and **Co-Chair Trish Cruickshank** will alert members who ordered them when they come. Terry reported they are looking into a "Horticulture Garden Trip" in the spring.

Hospitality Committee: After much discussion regarding the October 18 Members Only Luncheon, it was decided that members who wish, would bring their own lunch and drink. The Committee will provide table cloths and napkins. Masks will be required during the meeting.

Membership Committee: Co-Chair Diana Conroy reported they are waiting for the aprons to arrive and they have purchased a new book for the library, The Flower School: The Principles and Pleasures of Good Flowers by Joseph Massie, in memory of Janet O'Shea, a Past President. Gay Ellen Dennett will let them know when it arrives. We have three new members: Cheryl White who will serve on Hospitality with Carole Grosberg as her mentor; Kristine Cauti, committee TBD with Lindy Roethlisberger as her mentor; and Tanitha Hathcock, Ways & Means, with Joyce LaFaver mentoring.

Newsletter Committee: Co-Chair Amy Cicala reported that the next Newsletter is November-December. October 10 is the deadline for input. Please send pictures of the October mixer.

Nominating Committee: Co-Chair Jane Lischewski had nothing to report.

Program Committee: Co-Chair Martha Schleck had nothing to report.

Ways and Means Committee: Co-Chair Fabienne Madsen reported the Committee is meeting this Thursday, October 6, at **Co-Chair Nancy Yablonski's** house to make faux arrangements and wreaths. Sign-up sheets for December 1, 2 and 3 will be at the October 18 meeting. Wreaths have been ordered. Nancy announced that Diana Conroy has agreed to be in charge of the Jewelry sub-committee. A lot of jewelry has already been collected. Diana will send an email to Gail for the membership. Nancy and Fabienne will be in touch with Anne Carlson re publicity.

Old Business:

1. Amending Scholarship Bylaws Notification to Members for Vote: Next month.
2. Tools for Storing Information: Tabled
3. Unsung Heroes: Gail introduced our new Unsung Heroes, Trish Cruickshank and Terry Luskin. They were applauded by all Board Members!
4. September Presidents' Meeting: Gail and Debbie attended with other regional groups and shared ideas and practices.

New Business:

1. Congregational Church Contract: Gail reported we are looking into insurance and other details.
2. New Library Policy: Diana C. was told by Gay Ellen Dennett that the new Head Librarian, Kim Hewitt, has brought up the issue that if we are using the library meeting room, which is a public building, for free, our meetings should be open to the public. This brought up many questions about restricting numbers of attendees, signing up on the library website, and possibly shutting members out of meetings. Jane B. suggested that it may be a good time to explore other venues.
3. Opportunity Drawing: Gail reported that these drawings are not legal in Massachusetts. It is considered a "Raffle." Nancy A. will be checking with the Town Clerk's office regarding procedures. Jane B. suggests we comply with the law because of consequences. She will research the issue and get back to us.
4. Pennies for Pines: Gail announced the Club will participate in the Pennies for Pines program which funds reforestation across the nation. Coins will be collected at our General Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Toran, Recording Secretary

Present: Ellen Barnes, Jane Brand, Lynn Braley, Anne Carlson, Amy Cicala, Diana Conroy, Trish Cruickshank (voice only), Cathie Cummings, Gail Davis, Cathy Flaherty, Carole Grosberg, Lyn Jekowsky, Jane Lischewski, Terry Luskin, Fabienne Madsen, Martha Schleck, Mary Toran, Bonnie Waters and Nancy Yablonski.