

Needham Garden Club Board Minutes
Tuesday, April 3, 2018
19 Board Members Present

President Nancy Agler called the Meeting to Order at 9:38 with a quorum present. She thanked Bonnie Waters for hosting and Martha Schleck for co-hosting.

Recording Secretary Jane Brand was not present. In her absence **Diana Conroy Co-President** recorded the minutes. A motion was made to accept the March minutes, said motion was passed.

Corresponding Secretary Cathy MacFarlane was not present. It was brought up that Gail Davis is recovering from surgery. {Diana alerted Cathy by email to this after the meeting, Cathy is in Florida but will send a card.}

Treasurer/Finance Committee: Martha Schleck had sent out the financial report electronically. It was reported that our opening balance in March was \$23,205.01. There was zero income for March, and \$951.59 in expenses. This leaves a closing balance of \$22,253.42.

Community Outreach Chairs Debbie Wentworth and Lynne Jones reported that they have ordered 6 bags of Compost from the Noanett Garden club to be spread at Noyes Garden by members of the Community Outreach Committee and other volunteers on Saturday, April 14 at 10am.

The next garden therapy is at Wingate on Thursday, April 26 at 10:30.

Debbie reported that she has contacted the coordinator of the Town Clean Up on Saturday, April 23rd. She suggested that the Needham Garden Club would be interested in a clean-up at Noyes Garden but that was not on the list. It seems that this event is mostly geared to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts however after discussion of High Rock as an alternative site, it was decided that we would just stay with Noyes Garden. Debbie and Lynne will both be out of town on that day, so an alternate volunteer will coordinate. Debbie has developed a week-by-week watering schedule for watering both Noyes Garden (May-September) and the library urns (May-November.)

Debbie and Lynne are looking at shrubs for the small circle plot at Noyes Garden. They are considering a Japanese Maple, and a Witch Hazel was suggested for its salt tolerance, native designation and both spring and fall interest. They then passed around a Commemorative sign in memory of all departed members to be place in this plot.

The suggestion was made that the current urns at the library be replaced with self-watering containers that might be a bit larger, thus not dry out as rapidly. A

motion was made and passed to use money from the budget to purchase, and amount was not determined. Anne Carlson volunteered to research options and cost.

Flower Arranging Chair Anne Carlson reported that the planned succulent wreath workshop for May 11 at Elm Bank was proving to be too cost prohibitive. They will instead be substituting an ivy ring with either flower picks or small plants. The ultimate cost will be in the \$25 range. There will be no formal tour of Elm Bank as in years past but members attending are free to roam the gardens and may anticipate that there will be gardeners that can provide information. The Program will start at 11am.

The committee has an idea for our table centerpieces for our Annual Luncheon.

Horticulture Chairs Cathie Cummings and Eileen Mecagni report that the herbal tea went well. Basil seeds were given to members and some are beginning to sprout. Those who took seeds are asked to save the ones that are thinned out. These will be planted in small pots and sold at the annual plant sale at the Street Fair. Cathie reported that she has more seeds to distribute to anyone who would like them.

The Horticulture committee is planning a trip to Parsons Reserve in Dartmouth to see the daffodils in bloom. This will be planned for April 17. We will carpool. Further information to be sent out.

Hospitality Chair Mary Toran sent around a sign up for the Annual Luncheon. Our next Board meeting will follow the (delayed) April meeting which will take place on May 1. Board members will bring bag lunches. We have not been given a time constraint by the library staff.

Membership Chairs Sally Toran and Bonnie Waters reported that we have 2 new members. Nancy Stam will join the Community Outreach Committee and Diana Conroy will be her mentor. Mercy Wheeler will be on the Horticulture Committee and Monica Foley will be her mentor. Bonnie reported that Mercy contacted us through our website-a first.

Annual dues are to be collected at the Annual Luncheon if not previously paid.

Newsletter Chair Amy Cicala reported that article for the May/June newsletter are due by April 10 to Chair Carol Alper.

Nominating Chairs Lynne Braley and Karen Taggart reported that we have a full slate of officers for next year. This slate was accepted by the Board and will be voted on by the full membership at the Annual Luncheon. Committee lists

will be sent to the Chairs but announced to the full membership at the Annual Meeting.

Program Chairs Fawn Hurwitz and Lori Markell reported that they have gone to the Speaker Forum and have speakers lined up for next year's program year. Logistics are being finalized.

Fawn reported that plans for the Tovah Martin program for May of 2019 with Beth Shalom Garden Club has been scrapped due to costs and negotiations. There is a possibility that they will have her for the Tri-Club meeting in March.

Publicity Chair Gail Davis was not able to be present

Ways and Means Chair Jane Lischewski reported that she is in the process of testing the weather and sun hardiness of the overlays that she used for the Wreath Sale signs last year.

She requested that she get the names of her Committee members as early as possible since last year by the Annual Meeting most of the members had packed summer plans and the Ways and Means group really needs to get started by the end of the summer.

Website Chair Nancy Agler reported that the recipes from the Herbal Tea have been uploaded and the April helpful hints have been added.

Yearbook Chairs Karen Taggart and Nina Saltus. Nina spoke about the timing of Chairpersons getting their committees together and organized workshops, etc., planned early enough in June to give details to the Yearbook editor(s). A firm deadline date was not determined/mentioned, but it should be no later than July 9th.

Old Business: Needham Women's Club will be having a garden Tour on June 10. Fabienne has volunteered her garden to be on the tour and is looking for assistance. She would like both gardening advice, and also help with various chores. She will be letting the club know which day will be best for her to work on the yard. So far, Karen Taggart, Beth Klemcheski and Sally Toran have volunteered to help.

New Business: Two notes that the Co-Presidents received praising our Art in Bloom Efforts from Ruth Ecker- Co-Metro District Director of the GCFM were read to the Board.

Amy Cicala brought the decorative garden marker art that she is donating for part of the raffle for the GCFM Metro District Annual Meeting and Luncheon.

Nancy and Diana will get a planter and plants to go along with the marker. All present agreed that the marker was a lovely donation.

The series of events that led to a donation from the club in memory of deceased member, Char Sidell, was described to the board. Much discussion arose at the Board meeting as to the propriety of the way this was handled and it was decided that in the future, per the by-laws, any decisions involving monetary donations would always be run through a quorum of the Board and at a board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02

Respectfully submitted,
Diana Conroy Co-President

Present: Nancy Agler, Lynne Braley, Anne Carlson, Amy Cicala, Diana Conroy, Cathie Cummings, Cathy Flaherty, Fawn Hurwitz, Lynne Jones, Jane Lischewski, Lori Markell, Eileen Mecagni, Nina Saltus, Martha Schleck, Karen Shapiro, Karen Taggart, Mary Toran, Sally Toran, Bonnie Waters and Debbie Wentworth.