

Needham Garden Club General Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2018

President Diana Conroy called the meeting to order at 9:46 a.m. The tea table centerpiece was provided by Diana Conroy and Lynne Braley.

Recording Secretary – A motion was made to accept the minutes from the prior general meetings (February and Tri-Club in March); said motion passed.

Corresponding Secretary – No update.

Treasurer/Finance Committee – Martha Schleck made available copies of the most recent Treasurer's report.

Community Outreach – Debbie Wentworth informed the members that small baskets are needed for future Garden Therapy events; there are no more such events this year, but they will resume in the fall. A sign-up sheet is available for summer watering at Noyes Garden, and also for the library urns. With respect to the watering at Noyes Garden, the resident of 66 Noyes St has informed the Garden Club that members are free to use the spigot at the right side of her house by the driveway for watering at Noyes Garden. Karen Taggert was thanked for creating the arrangements for the library urns.

Flower Arranging – Anne Carlson stated that there are still a couple of spots available for the May 11th members-only event at Elm Bank, which is the creation of an ivy wreath, to which seasonal items can be added. While there is no formal tour planned, members are invited to come early (at 10:00) to stroll the gardens before the event. Also, members are asked to bring bag lunches; beverages, desserts and paper goods will be provided.

Horticulture – Cathie Cummings called members' attention to the empty plastic pots and labels which she made available so that members can divide some plants for sale at the NBA Street Fair on June 2. She stressed the importance of labeling the plants, as "mystery plants" don't sell. The plants should be dropped off at the Town Common on Saturday, June 2 by 8:30 a.m. If members cannot drop them then, they may drop off plants at 189 Valley Rd or 81 Bess St between May 29 and June 1. The location of the Garden Club's booth is not yet known. Cathie will inform the club if she is able to get this information ahead of time; otherwise, members should check the Needham Times the Thursday the before the Fair for a location map.

Hospitality – Mary Toran informed the group that today is the last day to sign up for the Annual Meeting Luncheon, to be held on May 15.

Membership – Bonnie Waters introduced Mercy Wheeler as a new member, and presented her with a yearbook. The club also was informed that dues for next year (\$40 for regular members; \$45 for associate members) should be given to Bonnie.

Newsletter – Diana Conroy thanked Carol and Amy for the most recent newsletter, which all were very impressed with. Carol Alper stated that there is no newsletter over the summer

months, and that the next newsletter deadline is August 10th, for those who may have news pertaining to fall events

Nominating – Lynne Braley stated that the slate of officers is completed and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting in May. Committee assignments also will be provided at that time.

Program – Diana introduced the guest speaker, Ila Cox, who has much experience with plants in a variety of settings, including work with her church guild, the MFA, and as a small business owner, lecturer and garden club member. Ila Cox is to present information about the history of the Tulip and Tulipmania.

Publicity – Gail Davis said that she has been pleased with the results of the Club’s publicity efforts, and noted that our guests today included two visitors from Medfield, who had seen a notice of today’s program in their local newspaper.

Ways and Means – Jane Lischewski stated that she is continuing to collect small containers, pine cones and decorations to be used for the club’s wreath and arrangement sale in December.

Website – The members were reminded to check needhamgardenclub.com for lots of club information, including gardening tips. It was noted that Mercy Wheeler was the first member to contact the club through the website to express interest in joining the club. Also, Lyn Jekowsky encouraged the members to “like” the club’s Facebook page.

Yearbook – No update.

The business meeting adjourned at 10:06 a.m., at which point the presentation by Ila Cox began.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Brand, Recording Secretary.