

**NEEDHAM GARDEN CLUB
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 4, 2021
(18 members present)**

Co-President Jane Lischewski called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. The meeting took place via Zoom.

Recording Secretary:

Co-President Martha Schleck made a motion to approve the minutes from the April Board meeting, as corrected; said motion was seconded and approved.

Corresponding Secretary:

Bonnie Waters stated that a card had been sent to Cathie C to let her know the club is thinking of her.

Treasurer/Finance Committee:

The April Treasurer's Report was circulated to the Board. The April report reflects the following: April began with \$19,118.12 in the checking account and cash on hand of \$280, for a total of \$19,398.12. There was no income for the month; expenses were \$598.84. At the end of the month, the checking account balance was \$18,519.28 and cash on hand was \$280, for a total of \$18,799.28.

Treasurer Nancy Agler stated that members who are unable to volunteer at the plant sale had donated \$250. Discussion ensued about how the Horticulture Committee should use those funds. The consensus was it could be used either for purchase of material for the plant sale, or simply reflected as profit.

The Finance Committee will meet following the Board Meeting to discuss the club's budget for next year.

Communications Committee:

Publicity — Gail Davis stated that information concerning the plant sale had been sent to the two local newspapers, and a flyer has been circulated to members to share. Information also has been posted to social media outlets including Facebook and Needham's town page, and also on the RTS electronic sign.

Yearbook — Trish Cruickshank had no update at present, but expects to have the information for the new yearbook by late June and plans to work on it over the summer.

Facebook — Lyn Jekowsky has posted plant sale information to the club's Facebook page, and will do so again closer to the date of the sale.

Website — Nancy Agler stated that the website is up-to-date.

Community Outreach Committee:

Lynne Jones stated that the new library urns, inserts and potting soil are ready to be planted with annuals. This work will be done at the library and will be a committee-wide effort. Jane L stated that Ann McFate at the library should be called and given a few days' notice before this project, so that she can arrange to have the old urns removed. It also was suggested that pictures be taken of the new

urns once they are in place and planted. Cathie Cummings informed the Board that native plants will be added to Noyes Garden.

Flower Arranging Committee:

No update. Jane L agreed to circulate a photo of the arrangement NGC's Debbie Kraft and Carole Grosberg made for the MFA's Art in Bloom.

Horticulture Committee:

Trish Cruickshank and Terry Luskin reported on the progress of the plant sale planning. The committee will be calling club members to see what they plan to donate, and will be assessing the amount of help needed for pricing the day of the sale. Discussion concerning the plant sale ensued, and included pricing, use of GCFM 'Go Native' stickers, and the workshop scheduled for May 6. Regarding the workshop to be held May 6 at 10:00 a.m. at Lyn Jekowsky's home, Lyn has two large tables for members to work at; plant material, potting soil, and pots will be provided by the committee. Following the workshop, help may be needed to 'babysit' the container plants until the day of the sale. Jane L will donate ceramic pots. Anne C and Lyn J will loan wagons to help transport plants to cars on sale day.

Hospitality Committee:

Cathy Flaherty stated that efforts to find a suitable location for the May Annual Meeting and Luncheon were to no avail. Accordingly, the luncheon has been postponed to the Fall. The \$250 deposit which the Needham Golf Club has been holding has been returned to the club.

Martha Schleck stated that Anne C had offered her yard for the annual President's luncheon following the June Zoom Board Meeting. It was agreed that the Hospitality Committee will arrange for boxed lunches to be catered from Baker's Best. Members should bring their own chairs.

Membership Committee:

Debbie Wentworth stated that dues are coming in slowly. The committee will make follow-up phone calls as needed starting next week. Martha S offered to circulate a reminder note to the membership. The newsletter also contained information about paying dues.

Newsletter Committee:

Carol Alper stated that the next newsletter deadline will be August 10. She expressed hope that by then we will have a better picture of what the Fall programming and events will look like. Carol requested that photos of the newly installed library urns, plant sale and workshop be shared with her for inclusion in the newsletter.

Nominating Committee:

Jane L congratulated the committee on their work filling openings in the nominating slate. Debbie Wentworth has agreed to serve as a Tri-President, Fawn Hurwitz will be co-chairing the Membership Committee and Nancy Yablonski will become a tri-chair for the Ways and Means Committee.

Program Committee:

Bonnie Waters reported that the September (Kathryn Leva), November (Karen Gordon) and February (Dan Jaffe) speakers scheduled from last year have agreed to speak at the same times this coming year. The November presenter has said she cannot provide a Zoom presentation, if the need to convene virtually exists at that time. The Committee will be meeting on May 11 to make decisions concerning the January and April programs. Bonnie requested that she and/or Pat Hession be apprised

of information concerning re-openings, changes in restrictions and the like at venues the garden club uses, to make follow-up concerning program planning easier.

Ways and Means Committee:

Diana Conroy reported that the committee is planning to meet later this month, and that a shopping trip for the Wreath and Arrangement Sale is planned for August. Fabienne Madsen stated that she has designed a banner for the Wreath and Arrangement Sale for posting at the RTS, as well as new yard signs. She will check the dimensions of the yard signs, as the Board has expressed interest in having larger signs. Fabienne also proposed use of an 'A-frame' sign for the Congregational Church lawn, which will reference the sale date as 'the 1st Saturday in December', thus obviating the need to change the sign every year. She will have a sample or print-out of the sign for the Board to view at a future Board meeting.

Old Business:

None.

New business:

1. The Board briefly discussed the issue of members who do not actively participate in committee duties and the like.
2. The club's Zoom account will be up for renewal in the coming months. Following brief discussion, *Martha S moved that the club renew its Zoom account. Said motion was seconded and passed.*
3. Diana Conroy shared that the Festival of Trees team has been continuing its work, and things are progressing nicely.

There being no further business, and *upon motion made by Martha S, seconded and approved, the meeting adjourned at 10:35 am.*

Respectfully submitted,
Jane Brand, Recording Secretary

Present: Nancy Agler, Carol Alper, Anne Brain, Jane Brand, Anne Carlson, Diana Conroy, Trish Cruickshank, Cathie Cummings, Gail Davis, Cathy Flaherty, Lyn Jekowsky, Lynne Jones, Jane Lischewski, Terry Luskin, Fabienne Madsen, Martha Schleck, Bonnie Waters and Debbie Wentworth.