

**Needham Garden Club General Meeting Minutes**  
**September 19, 2017**

**President Diana Conroy** called the meeting to order at 9:43 a.m. She welcomed members and guests, and guest presenters Carolyn Ellis and Beth Paisner. She thanked the hospitality and program committees, as well as Lynne Braley for the tea table arrangement. Condolences were extended to members recently experiencing the loss of loved ones. Diana also informed the club that three gift certificates (to Sweet Basil, to Needham Center Fine Wines, and for two Boston Symphony Orchestra tickets) would accompany the NGC entry to the Mass Hort's Festival of Trees.

**Recording Secretary** – A motion was made to accept the minutes from May's general meeting and luncheon; said motion passed.

**Corresponding Secretary** – No update.

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

**Community Outreach** – Debbie Wentworth informed the members that sign-up sheets are available for Garden Therapy at Briarwood on Oct. 26, and at Avita on Nov. 30. Both events will start at 10:00 a.m. A sign-up sheet is also to be circulated for arrangements for the library reception table. Members were cautioned to have something under the arrangement so the table does not get wet. Lynne Jones stated that a work day has been scheduled for Oct. 19 at 10:00 a.m. for planting spring bulbs (daffodil and crocus) at Noyes Garden, for which another sign-up sheet was available.

**Flower Arranging** – Anne Carlson informed the members that the theme for the October table design is "Let Gourds Be Your Inspiration." A sign-up sheet for that event was circulated. Once sign-ups are complete, the Flower Arranging Committee will make balanced groups, each with a member from the Flower Arranging Committee.

**Horticulture** – Cathie Cummings thanked those who participated in June's NBA Plant Sale, as well as Debbie Kraft, Amy Cicala and Bonnie Waters for making their gardens available for the Garden Stroll. Cathie also directed the members' attention to the begonia challenge plants on display in the Horticulture Corner. Cathie informed the group of a planned field trip to the Rose Kennedy Greenway on Sept. 26. The Greenway contains a series of parks, and is about 1 mile in length (one-way). A sign-up sheet was circulated; for those who sign up, additional information concerning transportation and lunch options will be provided.

**Hospitality** – Mary Toran reminded the club of the members-only luncheon following the October table design meeting, and circulated a sign-up sheet pertaining to same.

**Membership** – Bonnie Waters stated that she has information packets for new prospective members. Anyone interested in joining should speak with Bonnie.

**Newsletter** – Jane Brand stated that the deadline for submissions for the Nov/Dec newsletter is Oct. 10, and all committees were asked to submit their news of upcoming events by then.

**Nominating** – No update.

**Publicity** – Gail Davis stated that the local papers have been good about publishing NGC's photos.

**Ways and Means** – Janice Berns stated that the committee is planning the wreath sale. Due to a change in the market, the club may need to purchase bare wreaths this year.

**Website** – No update.

**Yearbook** –Karen Taggart stated that updates to the Yearbook would be available on the sign-in table for members to take on their way out.

The business meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

**Program** – Fawn Hurwitz introduced guest presenters Carolyn Ellis and Beth Paisner; their bios were described, along with the topic: "Get Real: Flowers for Everyday." Fawn also informed the members that the Metrowest Fall Conference takes place on Oct. 24 in Foxboro. [**Correction:** Meeting is Oct. 25 in Foxboro.]

Respectfully submitted by Jane Brand, Recording Secretary.