

January Board Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2024
Helen Crary's Home

Attendance

Ann Boland, Barbara Baumgardner, Helen Crary, Pat Drobinski, Jo Ann Forester, Sally Gaburo, Marilyn Hodges, Mike Hunter, Diane Kaplan, Janelle Landrigan, Juju Lem Pang, Tricia McCann, Lynn Noland, Carol Shapanka

Secretary's Report

A motion was made by Janelle L. and seconded by Carol S. to accept the Secretary's report dated November 29th, 2023. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report.

A motion was made by Barbara B. and seconded by Tricia M. to accept the Treasurer's report dated January 24th, 2024. All were in favor.

Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held on Zoom on February 28th, 10:00 AM (or possibly in the evening.) Janelle L. has a conflict and can not host the meeting as planned. It was suggested that next year, the Board should not plan their monthly meeting during greater Boston Schools' vacation week.

Holiday Decor Review

The 50th Golden Anniversary table tree and golden wreath raffle were announced. Jo Ann will pick winners for the tabletop tree . The project ran \$30.00 over budget. This extra expense will be taken out of the Hosmer House fund which was approved at the last Board meeting to cover expenses of the 50th Golden Anniversary decor. Carol S. discussed the issue surrounding the take down of decor at The Wayside Inn. A lot more members came to decorate the Inn(36) versus those that came to take down the decor (16). It was discussed that next year more emphasis needs to be put on the fact that this is a two day commitment, and perhaps you will need to attend both days in the future to get the two for one coupon off a meal at the Wayside Inn.

The Silver Plate

Janelle L. updated the Board on SGC's Silver Plate collection. The total monies collected were \$1325.00. It was reported that two families were each gifted \$100.00 in gift cards to Market Basket. Three other families of single moms with young children asked for gift cards to Amazon for the holidays. Appreciation to all who donated was expressed.

Civic Beautification

Barbara B. will submit grants to GCFM for monies to support the Butterfly garden. We are eligible because it has been more than 3 years since we applied for a grant. The deadline is July 31st.

Community Outreach

Pat D. and Diane K. provided an update. Boxwood arrangements in December were greatly appreciated. The returns of material went very well and everything is cleaned and saved for next year. Signs for the arrangements ran \$10.00, which will come out of the budget line item. The next Community Outreach activity will be on February 7, 2024 at 11:30 am (after our general meeting) at MCC. We will make Valentine Flowers for clients of the Sudbury Food Pantry.

Gathering of the Green Thumbs - February Lunch Date

Friday, February 2, at noon

The Farmer's Daughter, 534 Boston Post Road, Sudbury

RSVP to **Marilyn Hodges**, (617) 548-7080

RSVP by WEDS January 31st, 2024. A Reservation for 10 will be made shortly.

Holiday Party & Annual Meeting

Juju L. P. thanked all the organizers of the SGC Home for the Holidays Christmas party. Patti M. and Helen Crary gave an overview of the festivities. A discussion ensued regarding serving alcohol at our semi annual parties (Dec and June). As Pat D. and Diana C. coordinate things for the Annual Meeting on June 5th, they will investigate the possibility of hosting it at a site that has a cash bar. If anyone has ideas please send them to Pat D. or Diana C. It was also proposed that the business meeting happen before lunch at the year end celebration.

Carol S's investigation into getting our general meeting coffee from Karma coffee determined that it is not going to work. It is too expensive.

Governance

The question on proposing a change in the wording under Policies and Procedures Number 4 was discussed and a motion to accept the following wording was approved, seconded and all were in favor:

"Upon the death of a Member or someone in a Member's family, to include spouse/partner, child or parent, a charitable donation from the club shall be made in the name of the deceased..."

Publicity

The update by Barbara Fay on a list of programs posted on Sudbury TV was postponed due to her absence. Jo Ann F. suggested SGC use the Sudbury Weekly (a weekly email service) as a communication vehicle to list our monthly programs, promote the Plant Sale and other SGC happenings. Jo Ann offered to investigate. Jo Ann also reiterated that we need a member/person who is a guru at social media to advertise our activities and build interest. Janelle L. has a person in mind. She will investigate and report back.

Membership

No new members have joined. April brings membership renewal. Postcards will go out in March for membership sign up. A meeting where the theme is "Bring a friend" was proposed.

Website

Plant Sale

The idea of asking town businesses to sponsor our plant sale in May was discussed. Lynn Noland reported that it is okay with GCFM. Carol S. said the Plant Sale Committee will discuss this issue.

Programs

Mike H. updated the board on the very successful January 10, 2024 evening program via Zoom at 7 pm., The Heirloom Gardener - Traditional Plants and Skills presented by John Forti. Forty eight people signed in on zoom, community members, SGC members, as well as GCFM members and even a few people from NH. The Zoom platform was deemed very successful due to the ability to garner speakers from all over. Also, it was a good option for January with inclement weather. It was nice to offer an evening program for people that work during the day. Next year if SGC repeats this platform, we should add a plug for the plant sale.

Our next program is February 7, 9:30 am., Aurelia's Garden, presented by Hannah Traggis and Loring Schwarz. Nineteen Central North District presidents have been invited and two have responded with interest and will attend: Joy Dimaggio, Co President, Thursday Garden Club, Lisa Theall, President, Groton Garden Club. Carol S. will make sure a plug for the Plant Sale will be done.

Philanthropy

Scholarship Committee

Sara was not in attendance. Jo Ann F. reported that our name / wording is incorrect in the scholarship catalog published by LS which the students use to apply for scholarships. Jo Ann F also suggested that SGC take a photo of our winners to put on social media. Deadline to apply is April 12th, 2024.

Color Me Floral Workshops

Juju updated the board on the wonderfully successful Winter Pop Up Workshop held on January 17th, 2024. Allison Hassard from Frugal Flowers was fabulous; very professional, friendly and filled the 2 hours. The next Workshop is on March 20th, 2024 at MCC Flower Bar. Carol and Juju will introduce another sustainable product, the oshun pouch. All participants will get 2 pouches: one to use in the workshop and one to use at home. The cost to attend is \$45.00. Sign up begins on February 8th, 2024.

WAM, AIB MFA

Juju reported that Carol and she are going to design a floral piece for Art In Bloom at the MFA, on April 25, 2024(Thursday) to April 28, 2024(Sunday). The SGC will also participate in the Worcester Art Museum Flora in Winter event from February 29-Mar 3.

GCFM - Update

Lynn N. reported that the GCFM board loved being included at Wayside Inn decorating day. Three GCFM leadership: Majorie Dienhart, President, Nancy Riggs, District Director-Central North District, Kim Edwards, GCFM 1st Vice President, attended. GCFM is now pushing grants for clubs to use. Lynn will send information to Barbara. NGC wants us to push childrens books for sale on their website. Lynn can send a little article to go in the Grapevine to promote.

Sunshine Committee

An update on Jean Vnenchak, Jackie Hauser (broke her arm,), Barbara Fay (stroke), and Jeanne Lucey (stroke) was kindly given by Tricia M. Cards will be brought to the February meeting for members to sign.

Other

Juju L.P. read an email from Marcia Rasmussen concerning policy/protocol for memorials and sponsorship of various aspects of the rail trails. More information will be forthcoming. SGC is interested in sponsoring a bench along the trail.

The Groton Garden Club invitation to their Annual Public Lecture on March 3.Sunday at 2 PM will be posted in the February Grapevine.

A damage report for the island on 117 is in process.

The SGC may need to get a new person on the nominating committee. Issues surrounding who might be appointed, how they would be appointed and when they would be appointed were discussed with no conclusion.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:58, A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Co Secretaries: Sally Gaburo and Beth Iosua