

Wollaston Garden Club
August 14, 2020
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Jan C., Ann F., Kathy C., Linda M., Mary R. Kate W., Janet D., Eric H., Kathy M., Clare L., Judy H., Kay B., Anita F., Jackie R., Jo C., Dee C. Anne Mc.

The meeting was called to order by Kathy and Ann at 1.P.M.

Treasurer's report

- Linda Monaco reported that our auditor, John Reed has our books but reported the following:

Balance: \$17.531.84

CD: \$5.809.43

- Petty cash: \$116.70
 - The Trustees of the Reservation have not cashed our check.

July Board Meeting Minutes

- Kate Wylie sent them out (filling in for Mary R,) and there were no edits so they were accepted as written.

Corresponding Secretary's Report

- Kate reported that we received numerous thank you for our donations including Q Can and the school grant.
- All checks have cleared.
- We have received some free magazines also.

August Stroll:

- The last stroll of the year took place on August 13th at Cynthia Lewis's seaside home.
- Some Board Members attended. Ann will check with Cynthia to find out the number of attendees.

- One member wrote a beautiful thank you to Cynthia stating how much she enjoyed her flower garden and garden art.
- Suzanne West took photos for the website which will be up on Saturday. Viewing it online is a great way to experience Cynthia's luscious garden if you weren't there in person.
- Janet D. inquired if we could determine how many views have accessed WGC's website. Jan replied that we can track the number of hits, but not who made them. It could have been anyone, not just board or club members, viewing several times.

Posts on the Website

- The Lavender Harvest took place in July at the Thomas Crane Public Library.
 - Claire Fitzmaurice showed her team of volunteers how it is done and a video is posted on the WGC site.
 - Molly Mullin is growing Monarch butterflies and will be submitting some photos.
 - Molly is also looking for volunteers to "parent" some monarchs.
 - Ann would like to post some recipes from members' harvests.
 - She will type them up and send to Suzanne.
 - Since we have done a recipe book three times, we won't be compiling them in this format.

Program's for next year

- The programs are all set for next year.
- Ann, Kathy and Janet reported that since some of the upcoming meetings will be on Zoom, we will need to draft instructions, "*Zoom for Beginners*", which would include specific ways for members to connect to the meeting.
- Emily volunteered to have a one-on-one with members.
- Anita, who heads up the phone tree, will contact the members who don't have internet access to see if they can connect with family or friends so they can also attend the virtual meetings.

- The September meeting will be “A Garden Tourist” PowerPoint slide presentation with Joan Butler and Jana Milbocker.
- In October Cochato Nursery will also do a PowerPoint and supplement.
- Jan mentioned that she did not have write-ups for February and March for the yearbook. Ann said that she would provide February and Eric will confirm whether the information in the 2020 write-up is still valid.
- Ann asked if new contract needs to be drawn up as some of the programs will have a reduced cost due to no mileage and less time involved.
 - The Board agreed that new contracts would be necessary.
- The March 18 program of the MA Department of Conservation and Recreation with Julianne Sullivan will be confirmed by Eric and Kathy Stachowski.
 - They will also verify that it can be delivered virtually, if necessary.

Field Trips and Members Garden Tour and 2 Summer strolls

- Jan asked Board Members if we had any ideas.
- Kincaide Park was suggested but ruled out due to its recent condition according to Mayor Koch.
- Thomas Crane Public Library, Generals Park and Milton Cemetery were suggested. Lisa Ahern is the superintendent of the Milton Cemetery and might be interested in giving tours of the trees and shrubs of this site which dates back to the 1600's.
- The Board decided to just put dates in the yearbook, and locations would be determined later.

Civic Beautification

Dee reported:

- John Sullivan, the “trash guy”, and Director of Waste Management is retiring and we want to send him a card thanking him for his help over the years.
 - Ann will send him a thank you card.
- Anne Hutchinson Memorial Wreath

- We will plan next June/July for a wreath to be hung for the month of July, her birth month.
- The Board agreed to keep the event in the yearbook and on the Board calendar so we can plan next March or April to have it ready for her birthday in 2021.
- Watering schedule for Wollaston Library Planters
 - Pam cleaned out the pansies.
 - Jo said that we should plant autumn flowers in early September.
 - Since there is no water supply there, plants such as lavender or succulents would be good choices for the planters.
 - Jo agreed to set up a watering schedule.
 - Japanese knotweed at Newport and Beale St. didn't get the help from the prison crew due to COVID.
 - Ann, Molly and Jo might take loopers to cut down these evasive plants.

Safford Park

- Needs to have the plants cut back and divided. This didn't happen because we didn't have the plant sale this year.
- The removed plants can be for the next year's plant sale.
- The grasses are also hiding the sign.

Passanageset Park update

- Linda Monaco reported that she texted Scott Campbell to learn about the status of the project.
- Grace McAuliffe of the Quincy Parks Conservancy said that work has begun on the first grove.
 - A grove is \$1,000 donation
 - A garden sponsor is \$500
- Grace is looking for volunteers to weed.
 - WGC would like to know if they are putting down a weed barrier before we commit to help weed.
 - We would want to know if they are maintaining the area before we are willing to donate to the project.

Greens Sale 2020

- Emily and Pam agreed that we will not be having the regular Greens Sale but can the COVID version.
- The bags of greens are one of the most popular items and we can still sell these.
 - The areas for cutting the greens have previously been identified.
 - Worker bee members can cut the greens, and bag them. (They could do it inside the Church spreading out).
- A team of designers would meet and determine one signature wreath or theme.
- Orders would be taken (similar to the virtual plant sale).
- Publicity would be through social media in addition to the traditional methods.
- Customers could either do a drive-by the Church for trunk pic-up or have volunteers deliver the order to their home.
- Payment would be through Venmo or Zelle which will be researched by Linda.

2020-2021 Yearbook

- Jan reported that the yearbook is in good shape and on the second draft.
- Suzanne is working on the cover for which she received many beautiful photographs (some of which were anonymous).
- The 2020 field trips have been rolled over to 2021.
- The GCFM has no in person programs but will be having virtual programs. They have also scheduled their Annual Meeting in June.
- Marnie submitted the updated directory.
- Jan asked for volunteers to proof-read the 3rd draft.
 - Anne McCarthy, Anita, Ann, Kathy Meade and Janet volunteered.
- Jan suggested that someone write up a short tutorial to enclose with all the books telling people how to sign on to Zoom.

- We had a discussion as to whether you had to download the Zoom app to participate in a call if you are invited and determined that you do not have to download it.
- Emily said that she could do the Zoom invitation and Jan would forward it to the entire club so they could sign in to our programs.
- We did not finalize as to who would do the write up.
- Delivery of the yearbooks to save postage.
 - Kathy C. will help map out groups of neighboring members,
 - Jan will take her part of town which includes at least 10 members.
 - Emily, Linda, Janet and Ann all also agreed to distribute books.

Greening the Gateway Cities Program

- Emily reported that DCR is working with QARI (Quincy Asian Resources, Inc.).
- There is a reimbursement grant.
- WGC isn't interested in marketing the Program to communities (out of our wheelhouse)
- WGC' Board suggested that Q Can(Quincy Climate Action Network) might be interested.

Confirmation of September Meeting Details

- Judy and Emily have cupcakes ordered for the meeting which will be on Zoom.
- InkSpot is doing the printing.
- There will be a perishable favor for the installation celebration so members should be alerted to that.
- They will be bundled by area and Kathy C. will help by mapping out areas.
- Volunteers will help with the deliveries. The following members have agreed to help (Linda, Janet, Kathy M., Clare, Kay, Kate, Anita, Emily, Anne, Jan will take her neighborhood.
- Dee will help with the calls

- Items will be picked up at Emily's house the day before to be delivered on September 17th for the night meeting.

Virtual Club Content update – Kathy and Ann for Anneli

Kincaide Park

- Anneli told us that the landscape architect who designed Kincaide park would be willing to give us a tour.
- Ann and Kathy said that maybe we could have a small self-guided tour for a small group during the first week of September.

Additional Committee Reports

- Garden Therapy
 - Clare and Jackie had planned to visit Hancock Park to check on the possibility of a program but due to Jackie's fall, everything was put on hold. COVID might also limit any access for this committee.

For the Good of the Organization:

- Note card update
 - Ann ordered 150 notecards with envelopes for \$157.00.
 - There are 5 designs with the photographer's name on the back.
 - The Board agreed to bundle them (5 cards for \$10.00), possibly tie together with raffia and sold.
- **Garden work crew update**
 - Kay made a proposal to help members who need gardening help
 - This is NOT for weekly maintenance but for short term help.

- Volunteers would be on a call list.
- When a card is sent out, a message could be included to say, “if you need help, call”.
 - Kay is getting a volunteer group together which includes Ann, Kathy C., Emily, Judy, Linda, Eric, Kathy M. Kate, Janet, (Jo, Clare, Dee and Jackie?) not sure
- Pat Barry is the archivist who will be given this year’s notebook and a thumb drive with the pictures on it. It will be dropped off at Janet’s house to be delivered to her.
- Minutes are required to be kept under non-profit laws.
- Linda will be in touch with Jan about our non-profit status.
- The Board agreed to continue to pay the Church rent (\$100/month) as we continue to use the closet.

Adjournment: 2:47 P.M.