

Wollaston Garden Club
September 10, 2020
Virtual Board Meeting Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order by Kathy at 6:40 p.m.

Treasurer's report-Linda reported that the auditor, John Reed, would have the report ready by Sunday September 13, 2020.

Linda reported the following:

CD \$5,820.43 checking account \$17,474.43 Trustees of the Reservation's \$500 outstanding check has been issued twice. If it is not cashed within 6 months, Linda will cancel it.

August Board Meeting Minutes- Mary Ryan sent out the revised minutes and there were no additional changes.

Corresponding Secretary's report- Kate W. reported that there was very little mail but said that the [Friends of the Blue Hills](#) has a number of Zoom programs linked on their website.

Kate got the key to the mailbox back from Kathy who was checking it this summer while she was away.

Yearbook update

- Jan said that 140 books have been ordered and will be ready on Tuesday, Sept. 15th.
- Jan shouted out a special thanks to Anne McCarthy and Kathy Meade for their proof-reading of the yearbook as well as Janet D, Linda , Anita and Suzanne for their great work.
- Jan asked for a copy of the groupings for delivery to include the yearbooks along with the cupcakes for the first meeting.

Operation Cupcake

- The previous minutes detail the September Meeting details that Judy and Emily have in place.
- The cupcakes and yearbooks will be delivered together.
- Volunteers will call or text ahead as they leave a house. Members should tell volunteer if they are not going to be home or if they'll be home shortly so bag can be left on porch.
- Susan N. designed labels and Emily will be printing them out.
- Anita and Jackie will make any needed phone calls. (Only 8 members are not on email).
- Kathy C. has delivery lists from Anita and Jan.
- Emily will write out an email for Jan to send out. Members will open their packages at the September Zoom Meeting time.
- Emily is all set for the speakers and will practice Zoom with her.

- Emily said it should be set up as a webinar and will check her subscription.

Claire Turck has had an injury so Anita will send her a card. If we know of anyone who is sick or needs condolences, call Anita to let her know.

Passanageset Park update

- Linda M. reported that Grace McAuliffe of the Quincy Parks Conservancy is willing to come to a Board Meeting to explain what the organization is, and its latest effort to restore and preserve Passanageset Park at Broad Meadows Marsh in Quincy.

Compressor Station

- Clare LaMorte wanted the Board to know about the Fore River Residents Against the Compressor Station (FRRACS). This compressor is part of the *Atlantic Bridge* pipeline project, which Spectra Energy is building to bring fracked natural gas through New England and into Canada. The site is directly adjacent to the new Fore River Bridge in North Weymouth. The site is within 1/2-mile of 900+ homes in Weymouth and Quincy.
- Board Members can express concerns about the blowdowns to the Mass Department of Public Safety. During a blowdown, untreated Natural Gas will be blown into the air and into our local communities with unknown health impacts. Enbridge should have installed a air quality monitor. [Enbridge](#) has a contingency plan on their webpage but doesn't have one for the compressor. There is no emergency exit plan for evacuation. Only residents within a certain radius are notified.
- There have been a number of protests including a car parade and march over the bridge sponsored by FRRACS. Board Members can protest by calling the Enbridge Hot Line at 888-331-6553 or check out activity by FRRACS on their website <http://nocompressor.com> to see how to get involved.

Kincaide Park

- Ann F. reported that Anneli has multiple suggestions for Kincaide Park.
- One idea is to give educational tours, a podcast or a self-guided document on the website.
- Ann and Kathy will be going to look at the park on Friday and Suzanne will take pictures.
- Ann suggested to look at the curriculum frameworks for middle school and possibly create problem based learning.

October meeting details

- Emily said that we can Zoom with Chuck and Sue from Cochato Nursery, Holbrook
- Possible opening meeting to community using a webinar format
- How do we reach all these new gardeners?
- Advertise in *Quincy Sun* and indicate space is limited, please register.
- Will evaluate format after the September meeting
- Grace will take a few minutes at the start of the meeting to discuss Passanageset Park.

Greens sale plan update

- Emily wants to schedule a brainstorming session with the designers (Cynthia, Marie R, Ruth, Jo, Carole, Anita and Kathy Meade) and the workers who'll be collecting greens (Linda has a file with volunteers from the previous year).
- Emily has a landscaper who can get material for the bags of greens.
- She would like to have WGC have a signature wreath with orders taken for ribbon colors.
- Magnolia is a material sought after. Pinecones are being collected.
- Emily will schedule a designer and worker planning meeting.
- The greens Sale is scheduled for Saturday, December 5th.

Arboretum seedling pick up

- The Arnold Arboretum is giving us a seedling.
- Ann will pick it up on Sat. 9/12/20
- Molly Mullin will winter over it to sell at the Plant Sale

Committee Reports

- **Civic Beautification**
 - Pam and Jo put mums at the Wollaston Public Library
 - Cleanup will be taking place at the corner of Beale and Newport
 - Jo will research the baptisia at Safford Park to take off old flowers and seed pods or take it nearly to the ground.
- **Conservation**
 - Eric spoke to Julie Sullivan, the environmental scientist, about our March meeting program and reiterated that we don't know the format yet.
- **Garden Therapy**
 - Jackie and Clare had some creative ideas to reach out to nursing homes.
 - Take pictures of members' photos from the thumb drive that Pat Barry has to create a collage of pictures that the nursing home could post on possible bulletin boards.
 - Janet can get thumb drive from Pat to give to Jackie and Clare.
 - Inkspot could possibly enlarge the collage from the back page of our yearbook for display and have a poem to go with it. Clare and Jackie will contact the nursing homes to see about possible restrictions and available space.
 - Wreaths could also be brought to the nursing homes for the doors.
 - Clare had an idea of a possible prize for members best door decoration.

Lavender sachets have been created by Claire Fitzmaurice from the Thomas Crane Public Library site. They will be sold at the Greens Sale and we can use the Church as a pickup spot.

For the Good of the Community

- Garden Club Federation of MA is not having any programs until 2021.
- The Festival of Trees will be held on November 27-December 20th. Tickets will be timed.

FineGardening.com

- is a free website that allows you to sign up to receive almost daily emails profiling the garden of a home gardener.
- Just send them a few pictures of your garden with descriptions of the plants and a few paragraphs to participate.
- Gardeners from all over the U.S. share their displays and can provide ideas for your garden.
- Jan will send out the information to the membership.

Note cards

- Ann F. gave an overview of the note card initiative.
- She tied card packs together with raffia. There are 30 of each card which are to be sold in packages at \$10.00 for 5 cards.
- We could have them as part of the Greens or Plant Sales.
- If any Board members are interested to purchase them now, just send a \$10.00 check to Linda as we did for the gloves.
- Ann will deliver the cards to Linda to streamline the process.

Memberships

- Native Plant Trust/Garden in the Woods membership gives us four passes.
- Linda will set up a box with the passes at the Church.
- The Mass Horticultural membership is on top of the file cabinet.
- Members will contact those with keys to get into the closet to retrieve the passes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Our next Board Meeting is scheduled for October 8th at 6:30 p.m.