

Wollaston Garden Club Virtual Board Meeting

December 10, 2020

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

Co-President Kathy called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

She asked for a moment of community to see if there was anything that has come up.

Co-President Ann thanked the Greens Sale Chairs, Emily and Pam, as well as past chair, Linda, for their extraordinary efforts. Between the cutting crew, the designers and the runners, she marveled at how well everything was executed during this challenging time. The Board exchanged a round of applause and raised their glasses in a toast.

Treasurer's Report-

- Linda reported to the Board that the check register balance as of 11/30/20 is \$17,510.6, the 4 Year CD is \$5,852.85 and the petty cash is \$86.70.

Linda sent a letter to Joann Vieira who had done a program for WGC in October 2019 and hadn't cashed the check yet. It was reissued in June Linda's letter also informed her that after December 30 the bank would no longer honor this check, and that we would consider our obligation to her satisfied.

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Recording Secretary's Report:

- There were no changes to the report Mary Ryan sent out from the November 19th Virtual Meeting Minutes.

Corresponding Secretary Secretary's Report:

- Kate asked if the Board wanted WCG to send any additional contributions to the Arnold Arboretum, Friends of the Blue Hills or Friends of Souther Tide Mill who all asked for donations.
- The Friends of Souther Tide Mill have still not cashed the check we sent them previously to renew our membership.
- We will contribute in the spring.

Greens Sale Update

- Emily reported that she was proud of the total effort of our sale during a pandemic. It was VERY successful!
- Members thanked Emily and Pam for their great organization of the whole process.
- Linda emailed a copy of the Greens Sale financial report and that the sale took in \$4707.86, with expenses of \$1644.30, for a net profit of **\$3063.56**.
 - Some members and customers liked the pre-designed wreaths which were easy for members to copy.
 - Some members preferred to design their own.
 - Suggestions included a hybrid approach for next year and to include table arrangements and planters.
 - Sorting greens in the Church driveway made cleanup much easier.

December Program

- Kathy reported that Deborah Trickett, owner of The Captured Garden, is an award-winning garden **designer who will** present “Winter Wow: Beautiful Containers for the Colder Months”.
- Deliveries of gingerbread men, baked by Ellen Donnelly with icing for decorating, will be brought to the membership.
 - Linda will draft an email to go out regarding the meeting, the goodie bag deliveries and [food donations requested](#) for the Interfaith Social Services in Quincy.
 - Kathy and Joe will deliver the food collected to them.
 - Emily and Jan are sponsoring the candy for the goodie bags which Kathy Meade has already purchased.
 - Kay warned drivers about the upcoming storm predicted for Wednesday and that it might interfere with the deliveries.
 - Members wondered about a possible Tuesday delivery.
 - Jackie will check with Ellen to see if that is possible to get the gingerbread men in time and will let us know.
 - Mary R. volunteered to help out with deliveries, if needed.
- WGC agreed to donate \$250 to Quincy Community Action Program (QCAP) for their general fund.

- Our general meeting will open on Zoom at 6:15 so members can connect and chat.
- Ann would like to see what everyone is doing to decorate for the holidays.
 - Members could take pictures and send them to Suzanne West to post on the website.
 - This initiative will be announced next week and members should respond in a few days so Suzanne can post them all at once.
 - Send any ideas you may have to Ann by email or text.

Future Program Ideas

- Judy H. reported that [Bedrock Gardens, a 20 acre botanical garden](#) in Lee, NH is available to do a Zoom meeting.
- John Forti, the Executive Director, a nationally recognized lecturer, garden historian ethnobotanist and garden writer, is offering virtual programs during COVID.
- Judy will find out the contents of the program and fee.
- Kathy reminded the Board to bring any ideas for programs to the Board.
- Janet and Emily suggested a gardening trivia game using Kahoot at a future meeting (possibly January).
 - Members could come together as teams in breakout rooms, one member could sign in to the game by entering the Pin # in Kahoot!
 - This would be done by using the mobile app or at **kahoot.it** on their devices (computer or mobile) and click **Enter**.
 - Teams would try to answer the questions in 20 seconds.
 - At the end of each questions a leaderboard would show the top scorers.
 - Janet, Emily and Mary will work on it and try it out.

Wreaths Across America Day

- This event will take place on Saturday, December 19th at noon at Mount Wollaston Cemetery and at Pine Hill Cemetery.
- Kathy signed us up to participate as a group to lay wreaths on the graves but anyone can participate to support our veterans.
- WGC is sponsoring 10 wreaths at \$150 to support this project.

Committee Reports

Conservation

- Eric reported that Anneli Johnson emailed Emily to see if WGC would like to write a testimony against the use of neonicotinoids which are a risk for the pollinators.
 - Will the use of neonicotinoid insecticides pose unreasonable adverse effects to the environment as well as pollinators, and whether current registered uses of neonicotinoid insecticides should be altered.
 - Anneli gave a verbal testimony at the [public hearing](#).
 - The Board discussed whether or not we should contact the Master Gardeners (Cynthia Lewis, Rebecca Dinsmore, Gail Spring and Carole Fischer) for more information to understand the issue.
 - The Board agreed that we are just agreeing to investigate so we should support this environmental issue.
 - Janet and Eric will work on a statement to be submitted by the deadline of December 17th.
 - Jackie suggested that we could ask one of the Master Gardeners to talk about neonicotinoids.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.