

Wollaston Garden Club
Virtual Board Meeting
January 14, 2021 6:30 pm

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

Kathy C. called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. She held a “Moment of Community” to see if there was any information to share but there was none.

December’s Board Meeting Minutes – Mary R resent the December Minutes to include the mention of Jackie Ryan in helping Ellen Donnelly make all the gingerbread men for the goodie bags.

Treasurer’s Report- Linda gave the following report:

- Checking account balance \$15,778.67
- CD -\$5,863.94
- Petty cash- \$86.70
- The CD is up for renewal in March and Linda will check rates and make a recommendation next month.
- Projected budget planning by line item was glanced at and determined that we are in “good shape”. The Finance Committee will work on it in detail at the April and May meetings.
 - Horticulture and Hospitality might need to be readjusted.
 - We have plenty of work gloves.
 - The Scholarships will be proceeding again in 2021.

Assistant Treasurer- Marnie Dunn has received a membership fee and contact information, which she has shared, from Colleen Sopp. Mary R. and Jan will add her to the email distribution list. The Board voted unanimously on her acceptance:

- Emily made a motion and Kay seconded it.

Corresponding Secretary’s Report- Kate reported that three organizations have contacted us for money which we’ll donate to in the spring.

January 21st Meeting – Kathy reported that we are set for our speaker:

- *LISA OBERHOLZER-GEE:FLORAL JOURNEY TO GERMANY AND BELGIUM*
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- Zoom will start at 6:15 pm so members can chat

- 6:45 p.m.- Business meeting
- 7 p.m.- Presentation
- There will be no opportunity drawing or goodie bag due to unpredictable weather.
- Ann reported that QCan, in conjunction with the Thomas Crane Public Library, are having a Zoom panel discussion on January 21st at 7 p.m. on “Quincy’s Fabulous Trees” but this conflicts with our monthly meeting.
- Jan will send out a WGC monthly meeting reminder.
- Emily will send out the Zoom link the day of the meeting.

February 18th meeting update –

- Ann recapped that our meeting presenter for February will be Garden Historian Thomas Mickey who will present “The History of Growing and Selling Dahlias”
- Like at the January meeting
 - There will be no opportunity drawing or goodie bag due to unpredictable weather.
 - Zoom will open up at 6:15 p.m. so members can chat.
 - The Business Meeting will be at 6:45
 - The presentation will start at 7:00 p.m.
 - Emily will ask for the presentation ahead of time in case of technical issues.
 - Ann will ask Thomas about a possible item for the opportunity drawing such as his book and about bulbs we could purchase for the drawing.
 - Janet will introduce the speaker.

March meeting update

- Quincy Department of Natural Resources presents "Conservation" with Julie Sullivan
- Eric recently spoke with Julianne Sullivan regarding the March program. She will be the sole presenter and will talk about restoring trails to provide public access such the Montclair bog. Kathy Stachowski, the Conservation Committee co-chair, will coordinate the program with Eric.

Art in Bloom- Ann reported that *Art in Bloom* will be held virtually this year but some of the pieces are no longer available (27 available out of 50 will be used). Unfortunately Jo Costello and Ruth Griffin’s piece is one of those unavailable so they will not be able to participate this year. Ann will recap and resend the information to them to insure they are aware of the situation.

Kahoot – Emily explained a fun online interactive game that members can play by using their Smartphones.

1. Members login to Kahoot.it on their Smartphone and choose they name/ nickname.
2. Emily started the game and showed us the questions on the computer screen. (This was a practice run in which there were questions regarding the history of Quincy).
3. Members chose the correct answer on their cell phones and the results were tallied on the computer.
4. Members were then put in breakout rooms by Emily with about 6 people each and when we actually “play”, one member will use just their phone to answer the question which they group will discuss and decide is the correct answer.
5. We are going to practice again before we implement the game at a meeting. It should be a lot of fun!

Ellie Cleveland – Jan told us that Ellie Cleveland’s brother, Scott, has been in touch regarding her memorial and sent along a sample letter. In the letter he explained his request to have a bench in her name in a spot with meaning for Ellie (Thomas Crane Public Library, Kincaide Park, Safford Park are possibilities) Scott said that the bench will be funded from donations only-not looking for City money.

The Board suggested the following actions:

1. Jan will call Claire Fitzmaurice who has been working at the T.C.P.L. and might have valuable input.
2. Contact the Park and Rec Dept. and contact allies to help navigate the process.
3. We want it to get on the Park and Recreation’s agenda for discussion.
4. WGC will submit the letter as it needs to be from Quincy residents.
5. Rewrite the letter after getting Claire’s input.
6. WGC will maintain the area around the bench if there are future plantings there.

Native Plant Challenge – Ann told the Board that Bonnie Rosenthal, GCFM President, is reviving the “Native Plant Challenge and is looking for input from all Clubs. wants each club to focus on native plants and respond to the Native Plant Challenge. She is working on a newsletter and would like each club to:

- send pictures of gardens with native plants
- write up short articles of favorites and explain why
- prepare a running list of local nurseries that sell native plants

Kathy and Ann will ask at our next meeting who is interested in native plants and could coordinate this Native Plant Challenge.

Committee Reports

Treasurer Linda Monaco reported that the tax-exempt form has been filled out and is on file at Staples.

The Trustees of the Reservation has finally cashed our check for \$500.
Souther Tide Mill's check is still outstanding.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.