

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

Date: April 11, 2018

President Vicky Marr called the meeting to order at 1:35 opening with recitation of the Gardeners Collect, the Conservation Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: 20 members
11 guests

Hostesses

For this meeting: Jean Haycock, Maryanne Lamont, and Izza Johnson
For May meeting: Alison Harris, Claudia Knox, Jean Herlihy, Jane Donelon,
and Jeanne d'Arc Mayo

Topsham Public Library Display

March: Patsy St. Pierre
April: Lucette Musica
May: open

Secretary's Report:

No corrections.

There are no minutes for March as the meeting was canceled due to weather.

Treasurer's Report

- Checking account: \$4029.98
Savings account: \$2513.08
- Income: \$13 Christmas auction IOU's
- Expenses: \$230 U Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond for a day camp scholarship
\$250 Cathance River Education Alliance for a camp Scholarship for a non-member
\$100 Friends of Merrymeeting Bay annual fund
\$35 Delegate registration fee for GCFM Fall Conference
\$18.97 Name tag holders
- Membership: 47
Jerry Hix passed away on January 29, 2018. Jerry was recognized as a longtime member of the Topsham Garden Club. Condolences from the club go out to his wife, Pat Hix.
- 2018-2019 budget:
The budget will be presented for approval at the June meeting. It is anticipated that the dues structure will remain the same: \$20 for an individual or \$30 for two members of the same household.

President's Report

- The Annual meeting is postponed until June. The program will be Tom Seymour speaking on Foraging for Wild Edible and Medicinal Plants. This

program is rescheduled from the March meeting which was canceled due to weather. Items to be addressed are: budget, officers, reports, filling goodie bags for the Annual Convention, and ways for members to help the club.

- The Medomak District Meeting is May 7 to be held at 1812 Farm, Bristol, with Anna Fielder speaking about “We Are All on the Same Trail”. The registration fee of \$30 is due April 20 payable to Topsham Garden Club and submitted to Alison Harris.
Car pool details will be announced.
- The TGC May 9 meeting will be a Bulb Tour of five members’ gardens: Claudia Knox, Jean Herlihy, Alison Harris, Jane Donelon, and Jeanne d’Arc Mayo.
Meet at 10:00 near Alison’s house (be aware of road construction in the area) on Cumberland St, Brunswick, to view three gardens there, car pool to the other two, and returning for a brown bag lunch and refreshments.
- The Plant Sale and Yard Sale will be June 2. Presently there is not a chairperson. A meeting will be arranged with Pam Leduc of Topsham Recreation Department to coordinate a schedule. Further details and sign up information will follow.
- We expect to have an exhibit at the Topsham Fair which is an excellent opportunity to advertise Topsham Garden club. Currently there is not a chairperson. Liz Volckening, Carole Flaherty, Patsy St. Pierre, Nancy Simboli and Marie Neale have offered to help. Details as to the date and theme will follow.
- GCFM (Garden Club Federation of Maine) Annual Convention is June 18-20. The registration form is available on line at www.mainegardenclubs.org. Early registration deadline is May 18.
TGC will subsidize the \$30 registration fee and the \$25 business meeting/luncheon fee for those attending. Details will be forthcoming.

Announcements and discussions:

- Hospitality Chair Liz Volckening reported that the date of the Christmas Auction and Pot Luck is December 5, rather than the normal December 12, due to a conflict with the Highlands which is the location of the meeting. The hostesses will be various club members who live at the Highlands.
- Civic Beautification/Horticulture Chair Jean Herlihy advised the use of Soil Moist for those planting annuals in containers. A small amount in the bottom of the container is sufficient to help retain moisture.
- Sign-up sheets for 2018-2019 hostesses, library flowers, garden tenders and plant sale were circulated.

- Jane Donelon and Jean Herlihy provided Double Snowdrops for auction. These were won by Nancy Simboli, Dorothy Gardner and Joan McDuff.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

The Program was “Everything about Dahlias” presented by Judy Stallworth and Suzanne Bushnell. Topics discussed were types of dahlias, care of dahlias and using dahlias in arrangements.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Neale
Secretary

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 11, 2018

Checking Account Balance (as of April 9, 2018)	\$4,029.98
Savings Account Balance (as of March 30, 2018)	\$2,513.08**

*** The Savings Account balance includes \$1,500 for a "Rainy Day Fund," \$1,000 reserved for a capital gift for the Androscoggin Brunswick-Topsham Riverwalk, and interest earned.*

Membership:

We have just learned that long-time member Jerry Hix passed away on January 29, 2018. He will be sorely missed. We now have 47 members for 2017-2018.

Dues (new or renewing members) have been \$20 for an individual or \$30 for two members of the same household. Members joining December 1 or later paid half price until the April Annual Meeting when all dues collected are applied to the following year. The Executive Committee is recommending the same dues structure for 2018-2019.

Renewal dues for 2018-2019 are payable starting at today's Annual Meeting, and according to our By-laws, are due in full by June 15, 2018.

Fiscal Activity Since February 14, 2018, Business Meeting:

- Income was only \$13 received for Christmas Auction IOUs.
- We made contributions to three organizations:
 - \$230 to U Maine 4-H Camp and Learning Center at Bryant Pond for a day camp scholarship
 - \$250 to CREA for a camp scholarship for a non-member
 - \$100 to Friends of Merrymeeting Bay for their annual fund
 - (We renewed our \$125 business membership in the Friends of the Topsham Public Library back in September.)
- We paid one member's \$35 registration fee at the GFCM Fall Conference to serve as President's Delegate, and we reimbursed me \$18.97 for nametag holders.

Upcoming Events:

- Medomak District Annual Meeting, Monday, May 7, at the 1812 Farm in Bristol. Liz and I will be collecting the \$35 registration fee (including lunch) and I will send one check for everyone's registration. The registration deadline in April 24. You can write one check for \$55 to cover both dues and the Medomak registration, if that's easiest.
- GCFM Annual Convention, June 18-20, at Sebasco Harbor Estate in Phippsburg. The Executive Committee is recommending spending a portion of our accumulated surplus to subsidize attendance at the meeting: \$30 toward convention registration and \$25 for the luncheon following the business meeting. Reimbursement will be made after the convention. Details will be forthcoming, but make sure that you register with GCFM by May 18 to take advantage of the early-bird rate.

Respectfully submitted,
Alison Harris, Treasurer