

# TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

Date: June 14, 2017

President Vicky Marr called the meeting to order at 1:45, opening with recitation of the Gardeners Collect, the Conservation Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance 20 members  
2 guests

## Hostesses

For this meeting: Liz Volckening and Patsy St. Pierre

For July meeting: none needed/field trip

## Topsham Public Library Display

This month: N/A

Next month: N/A

## Secretary's Report

Moved to accept by: Betsy Marr

Seconded by: Alison Harris

## Treasurer's Report

- Checking account: \$5048.77
- Savings account : \$2511.00
- Plant sale and Yard Sale: \$1908.00
  
- Membership: 32

## President's Report

Plant Sale--Vicky thanked various members who were instrumental with the Plant Sale: Jane Scease, Liz Volckening, Carole Flaherty, Fay Eldred, Alison Harris, Jane Donelon, Jean Herlihy, Lucette Musica, Patsy St. Pierre, Nancy Simboli, Marie Neale, and Izza Johnson.

Marie Neale reported that one sign was lost due to improper placement at Fort Andross.

Medomak District meeting--Vicky has received several Thank you's from other District Clubs regarding the Medomak District meeting. There were 72 guests registered, with 61 in attendance.

## New business:

Programs—are scheduled through April 2018. Summer programs are:

July 12 Docent-led tour of "Montpelier," the Knox Museum in Thomaston, including a presentation of its 18th Century garden plan  
Tour starts at 10:30 AM at 30 High Street, Thomaston

**Carpool** leaves Topsham Home Depot at **9:00 AM** (from the Park & Ride near the shed display)

August 9 Pot Luck picnic at the home of Vicky and Betsy Marr, Bristol 12 to 3. More details to follow.

Committee chair positions--Program Chairperson is needed to continue the programming after April 2018 as Vicky (our current Program Chairperson) has assumed the responsibility of 2018 GCFM State Convention Chairman.

2017 Topsham Fair--There was discussion of interest in a 2017 Topsham Fair exhibit. This exhibit is great publicity for the club.

GCFM 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention--Members planning to attend the GCFM 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention June 19-21 in Freeport, ME are: Vicky Marr (delegate), Marie Neale (delegate), Betsy Marr, Jean Herlihy, Jane Donelon, and Nancy Simboli.

Awards and Website Workshop--Vicky would like two members to attend the Monday, July 17 Awards and Website Workshop in Augusta at the Viles Home, 72 Stone Street.

9:30 to 11:30 Awards—to learn dates, electronic process including attaching photos

11:30 to 12:30 Website and communications—to learn about the website and club page updates process

Is there interest in the Topsham Garden Club to seek awards?

Sign-up sheets—there are still opportunities to sign up for garden tending, hostessing, and providing library flowers.

Donations--Marie Neale presented a request from Jen Haskins for a club donation toward a Santa Rosa Plum tree to be planted at People Plus in Brunswick, Maine. Alison Harris reported that the Audubon Society is also requesting our consideration for a donation. These requests prompted a discussion regarding the need to develop a policy with guidelines and perhaps requiring formal written requests for such appeals. The discussion was tabled for Board consideration, moved by Dorothy Gardner.

Rides--there are members who need of rides to our meetings: Dorothy Stetson and Doreen Wakely, as well as Dorothy Gardner.

### **Announcements and important dates**

June 19-21 GCFM 86th Annual Convention Hilton Garden Inn, Freeport

- July 17 GCFM Awards and Website Workshop, Viles Home, 71  
Stone Street, Augusta
- August 29 GCFM Native Plant and Wildflower Symposium  
McLaughlin Garden, South Paris (More Information to follow)
- September 12-16 NGC Fall Board Meeting St. Louis, Missouri
- October 30-31 NEGC First Annual Meeting, Crown Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI
- Oct 31-Nov 2 NGC Symposium, Crown Plaza Hotel, Warwick, RI
- November 2-3 Landscape Design School Course 3  
St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Falmouth FMI: Harriet  
Robinson
- November 14 GCFM Fall Conference, Augusta Civic Center, Augusta

The 2018 GCFM Convention is scheduled for Monday, Tuesday, and  
Wednesday, June 18-20, 2018 at the Sebasco Harbor Resort, Sebasco Estates,  
ME. Medomak District will be the host.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15.

Today's program which preceded the business meeting was presented by Anne Perkins, co-chair of the Montpelier landscape committee. She described the landscape plans for the General Henry Knox Museum, or Montpelier, in Thomaston, Maine, their development, and the individual elements that will eventually make up the grounds, focusing on how they fit into 18th century landscape design and how they will be used for education.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Neale  
Secretary

**TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB  
TREASURER'S REPORT  
June 14, 2017  
(revised June 18, 2017)**

Checking Account Balance (as of June 14, 2017)	<b>\$5,048.77*</b>
Savings Account Balance (as of May 31, 2017)	<b>\$2,511.00**</b>

*\* The Checking Account balance does not include \$8 received for the Plant Sale and a few dues checks.*

*\*\* 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:** As of June 14, 29 members have renewed for 2017-2018 out of the 47 paid members we had for 2016-2017. (We also had one honorary member, Hannah Vigue, who passed away in January.) We also have three new members (Maryanne Lamont, Minka Wallis and Ann Williams) for a current total of 32. According to our Bylaws, dues are payable by June 15 annually.

*June 18 update: We now have 36 paid members, with promises from several other members to renew.*

I hope to have a new Yearbook by our July 12 meeting that will include contact information for 2017-2018 members.

Dues (new or renewing members) for 2017-2018 are unchanged: \$20 for an individual or \$30 for two members of the same household. Members joining December 1 or later pay half price until the April Annual Meeting when all dues collected will be applied to the following year.

**Plant Sale & Yard Sale:** We made \$1,908 at this year's plant sale & yard sale, including a few donations from patrons "rounding up." This compares to \$1,629 in 2016 and \$1,193 in 2015. I do not yet have an accounting for expenses, but I expect them to be very modest.

**End of Year Closeout & Forecast:** At our July meeting, I will have a report on our 2016-2017 fiscal year that ended on May 31, 2017. `

I also plan to prepare a 2017-2018 financial forecast for that will include the results of our Plant Sale & Yard Sale on June 3, 2017 and any other updates.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alison Harris, Treasurer