

TOPSHAM GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

February 10, 2016

The February 10th meeting was called to order at 1:00 with the pledges recited, led by President Vicky Marr.

In attendance were 20 members and 4 guests: Carol Jack, Libby Hyatt, Jane Bastey and Ruth Horwitch.

Today's hostesses were Carole Flaherty, Alison Harris and Claudia Knox. Special Valentine's treat bags were provided to everyone by Carole.

Upcoming hostesses are: March—Mary Ann Douglas, Sue Poliquin, Izza Johnson, and Patsy St. Pierre

April Annual meeting is potluck with dishes contributed by everyone.

Hostesses are Vicky Marr, Betsy Marr and Carole Flaherty, and Lucette Musica

Library flowers for February are by Marie Neale. Fay Eldred will do March.

Secretary's Reports: Marie Neale amended the January minutes to include the program which was by Jeff O'Donal of O'Donal's Nursery on "Selection and Care of Hydrangeas." Minutes were then unanimously approved for the months of November, December and January with the motion made by Betsy Marr and seconded by Carole Flaherty.

Treasurer's Report:

Checking Account Balance	\$2830.58
Savings Account Balance	\$2507.65

We have received the \$150 first place prize award from the 2015 Topsham Fair.

Committee chairs are to contact Alison with budget requests for 2016-2017 as the draft t budget is being readied for viewing at the March meeting.

Marie Neale requested to be added to the report the monies raised during our December meeting--\$301 from the auction and \$43 from the 50/50 raffle which was won by Jeanne D'Arc Mayo.

Discussions related to committees:

- Executive Committee will meet February 13, (**postponed to February 27**) with a focus on the future of the Club. Contact Vicky with your input/concerns.
- National, regional and statewide focus on "Environmental Literacy" to educate about environmental concerns within each state.
- Pollinator program—GCFM was the first in the nation to participate
- Winter moth is spreading. Sightings are to be reported to the Maine Department of Agriculture which also has a survey available.
- A program for Plant Conservation Volunteers about rare plants will be offered in Topsham on March 6.
- The library gardens will now include an armillary flanked by planters mimicking those near the library entrance. No further expansion will be done at this time.

Unfinished Business:

- Current open positions: Vice-President, Secretary, Program Chair, Publicity. Vicky has e-mailed job descriptions. Please very seriously consider volunteering.
- Vicky suggested additional opportunities for the publicity chair to include updating the membership brochure, creating a Club logo, creating a regular newsletter, coordinating information from the national, regional and state level, providing photos to local papers. Kim Mondenado expressed interest in helping with such a committee.
- Master Gardener Program – a person from Harpswell has been awarded a Medomak District scholarship.

New Business:

- For the April Annual Meeting, Committee chairs are to submit annual reports with a focus on future plans/goals for the committee.
- There is a Kathleen Marty Civic Award for which we will consider working toward and applying. The submitted project will be from 1/1 to 12/31 of a given year.
- Sign-up sheets were circulated for library flowers, garden tending and hostess. They will continue to be available until filled. Please contact Vicky to sign-up by e-mail. Guidelines for each of these are on the website.
- Betsy Marr has assumed the role of financial review.
- Please remember Liz Volckening as she recovers from surgery.
- Kim Mondenado has scheduled a planning meeting for the Plant sale. Anyone interested, please meet on February 19 at 9:00 am outside Wild Oats Bakery in the Tontine Mall, Brunswick.
- A hand towel (off white, raised square pattern) was left at Barbara McHarg's. Please contact Marie Neale.

Important Dates:

- March 9 TGC (Topsham Garden Club) meeting. Program "Art in the Garden"/Stephen Mohr
- April 13 TGC Annual Meeting. Potluck/committee reports
- May 2 Medomak District Meeting at Point Lookout, Camden. Theme is "Farm to Table".
- June 15 and 16 GCFM (Garden Club Federation of Maine) Annual Meeting, Bar Harbor

Raffle of eight Gardening book donated by Claudia Knox. Winners were Pat Hix (5), Alison Harris (1), Jane Donelon (1), and Sue Poliquin (1).

Meeting adjourned 1:45.

The Program was presented by Irene Brady Barber titled "Travel the World through Backyard Gardens."

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Neale
Acting Secretary