

South Surrey Garden Club  
Minutes of Executive Meeting  
Monday 18 September 2017      St. Mark's Anglican Church

**Present:** Lee Bolton, James Good, Brenda Woosnam, Cindy Tataryn, Claude Hewitt, Marilyn Bryson , Sharon Lawson, Susan Lockhart, Gillian Davis, Anna Ludwinowski  
**Absent:** Melodie Brandon, Lorna Fraser, Dorothy Brown, Dale Kastansis, Linda Stanley-Wilson, Karen Ewing

**Welcome and Introductions**

President Lee Bolton opened the meeting at 7:15 pm with a welcome to new executive members Claude Hewitt, Logistics Chair, who was present, and Dorothy Brown, Treasurer. As Dorothy is away on a scheduled holiday former treasurer, James Good, is standing in for her.

**Additions to the Agenda**

It was suggested that the starting time be added to the top of the agenda.

**Previous Minutes**

*It was moved by James Good and seconded by Cindy Tataryn that the Minutes of the Executive Meeting of 17 July 2017 be approved as circulated. Carried.*

*It was moved by Anna Ludwinowski and seconded by Cindy Tataryn that the Minutes of the General Meeting of 26 July 2017 be approved as circulated. Carried.*

**REPORTS**

**Finance**

James Good circulated the Financial Statement for July and August 2017. He commented that the pre-paid membership (\$2,815) is significantly more than at the same point in time last year (\$1,075). He added that he is still receiving many membership forms with payment, including old forms and the old membership fee of \$25. Although Dale's name and address are on the new form some people still find the instructions confusing.

*It was moved by James Good and seconded by Sharon Lawson that, as of 18 September 2017, the practise of offering a year's free membership to members who open their gardens to be toured, be discontinued.*

There was some discussion as to the fact that this free membership became the practice only in recent years and was never voted on by the executive. If the rescindment has a negative impact we can reconsider it at a later date.

*The motion was voted on and carried.*

**ACTION:** Gillian will inform the Program Committee of the decision. The organiser of the Open Gardens to inform those who offer their gardens next year that we are no longer offering a year's free membership.

### **Membership**

In Dale's absence James reported that approximately 120 memberships have been processed to date. At the meeting Dale would like a table and three chairs but would like them set up at the back of the room rather than at the entry door.

### **Library**

Sharon reported that about twenty to twenty-five new books have been purchased or donated. These have all been processed and are ready to go in the library. She will have to purge some of the existing stock in order to make room for the new books.

**ACTION:** Cindy will bring a copy of BCCGC Horticultural Judging and Exhibiting Standards for purchase by the library at a cost of \$25.

There was some discussion regarding the low circulation of many of the books, possibly because people go online for information. It was suggested that purchase of new books should be limited and perhaps we should develop links to relevant websites, the goal being not to eliminate books but to develop other options.

### **Logistics**

Claude has investigated further the two storage locker options that are closer to South Surrey. We may need to reconsider the amount that has been budgeted for locker rental and also whether we need heat or could use pre-packaged desiccant to absorb any moisture.

#### White Rock/Surrey U-Lock mini storage

15028 32<sup>nd</sup> Avenue

5 x 7 x 8: \$1,638 per year

5 x 10 x 8: \$2,217.60 per year

Heated to 13°C

#### Sunnyside Storage

15553 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue

5 x 6 x 8: \$1,159.20 per year

5 x 10 x 8: \$1,890.60 per year

No heated lockers available

It was decided that a 5 x 10 locker at Sunnyside Storage would be suitable for the Plant Sale items, Flower and Garden Sale items and the tents and tables. We would need to

purchase a keyed lock and desiccant. Anna would like to see the locker with Claude. If the locker is booked this week then members could be notified by email to bring all outstanding club property to the meeting and Anna would arrange to move these items from the church to the storage locker.

Claude asked for some guidance as to how to set up the hall for the general meeting. Aside from the changed location of the membership table he was advised to leave all the stations (master gardeners, door prize, refreshments, Grow and Show etc) where they have been.

It was asked whether we are using the church's sound system. It was decided over the summer to continue with the arrangement that we had last year with Daniel, as it seemed the most reliable. The only change is that Lee will keep the sound equipment at her house.

**ACTION:** James and Claude will make arrangements to transfer the key and password so that Claude is now in charge of entry into the church.

### **Flower and Garden Show**

Cindy informed the executive that the show will be held on 27 June 2018.

### **Newsletter**

Marilyn conveyed from Linda that there was nothing to report beyond the recent publication of the September mini-issue and that the deadline for submissions for the 15 November full issue is 1 November. She asked whether Anna Burian will be doing her "From the Garden" presentation so that her notes can be collected.

### **Communications/ Web Master**

Susan reported that she has caught up with posting items on the website. She now needs to switch credit card information from Kathy to herself as the website fee is due in December/January. There was some comment regarding the lack of appeal of the website and problems with accessibility and whether we could look at changing the site. Susan agreed that it wasn't an attractive website but it is functional and works well regarding the membership list and reminders. She has learned how to use it and would not want to switch. She reminded the executive that she needs as much advance notice as possible regarding notices and information to be sent out to the membership. Lee expressed her appreciation for the great job that Susan is doing.

### **Program**

Gillian's committee has lined up speakers for the full year. For Christmas the committee is considering a bus trip to Van Dusen Christmas lights followed by a social event. It is some years since this has been done. A wreath workshop was considered but many

garden centres now offer this. In the SSGC Discussion Group there was much interest in the topic of hummingbirds and this will be pursued for next year. Gillian will make an effort to be more involved with the Discussion Group so that there is more input from members in program topics.

Gillian is working on the description of duties for her position and hopes to have it circulated before the next executive meeting. The committee is still looking for a vice-chair and there is one member who may be willing to take the job on.

## **OTHER ITEMS**

The SSGC Commercial Content Policy is available on the website under “Club Administration.”

Lorna is collating the information from the survey and will circulate it to the executive for discussion and action.

The BCCGC Fall Meeting will happen on 14 October 2017. The representatives for South Surrey will be vice president Karen Ewing and Gillian Davis. If Karen is unable to attend Lee will replace her. Representatives are reminded to take a raffle prize along. ACTION: Lee to phone Karen and to inform Brenda. Brenda to inform Dorothy Brown of the process of registering and paying for delegates.

The March general meeting will be held a week earlier because the hall will not be available due to Holy Week. The executive meeting will be on 19 March and the general meeting will be on 21 March.

### **General Meeting**

Announcements will include: the floral arts workshop, the library, the change to the March meeting.

Prior to the meeting members will be notified to bring items to go into the storage locker IF Claude is able to secure the locker by that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

