

South Surrey Garden Club
Minutes of General Meeting
24 January 2018 St. Mark's Anglican Church

Welcome and Announcements

Vice-President Karen Ewing welcomed members and visitors to the meeting. She explained that President Lee Bolton Robinson was in Ontario caring for her mother.

Thanks went out to Len Ewanyshyn for rebuilding the base of the master gardener sign.

A new Constitution Committee is being struck, to look at aligning the Constitution and Bylaws to current practice. If there are members interested in joining they should contact a member of the executive.

All updates of job descriptions for executive positions have now been completed.

Karen drew attention to the plant and photo display on the "Show What You Grow" table at the back of the room.

The membership was informed of the death of Mas Tanizawa on 22 December. Mr. Tanizawa was a long-time floral art and horticulture judge who frequently judged for the SSGC Flower and Garden Show.

Karen explained that there had been some confusion regarding people helping out at the Plant Sale. It was previously thought that such helpers needed to purchase a membership but this is apparently not the case.

Members were reminded to bring any club items in their possession to the meetings and to let Claude know so that he can transfer them to the storage locker.

Patti Chabot displayed a pair of pruners that were left at the wreath making workshop. All lost and found items go on the shelf near the kitchen door.

Members were informed of the BC Council of Garden Clubs AGM which will be held on 10th March. Members were encouraged to attend and those interested could talk to Lorna or Karen.

Program

On behalf of Program Chair, Gillian Davis, who is ill, Karen announced that there will be a workshop on Spring Cleaning for Mason Bees conducted by Roger Phillips. There will be a morning and an afternoon session on 3 February and there is still space left in the afternoon session. The fee is a donation to Doctors for Nepal.

Participants should bring their own Mason Bee house or Roger will supply you with something to work on.

From the Garden

Anna Burian brought in some examples of galanthus, bergenia and hellaborus. She also gave many useful tips on the growing of hellebores.

Tips

Joan Galloway gave a humorous presentation based on the confession of garden sins made to her by club members.

Volunteer Opportunities

Carol Wong spoke about the Darts Hill Weeders who look after the SSGC bed at Darts Hill garden. The weeders work from April to September and people can sign up to work as much or as little as they like.

She explained that the Sunshine Gardeners help out fellow club members who face a crisis, such as an accident, illness or bereavement, and need some temporary help in their garden. Carol will be at the Master Gardener table during the break for people to sign up for either or both groups.

Communications

Newsletter Editor Linda Stanley Wilson noted that the number of newsletters has shifted between four and six issues a year with some regular and some mini-issues. The deadline for submissions for the March issue is 1 March and she encouraged everyone to think about contributing.

She explained that as the club no longer has a waiting list it is looking at different initiatives to boost membership. In an effort to broadcast club events a little wider she has started an Instagram account and is putting together a brochure to publicize SSGC. She is including information about the club in the Ocean Park Community Orchard newsletter and The Ocean Parker. The club also has a Facebook page.

Linda informed the membership of a series of workshops being mounted by OPCO on Pruning, Photography and Bee Education. These are free and open to the public and she encouraged SSGC members to look at the OPCO Facebook page to find out more. The OPCO is also building a cob house, to be used as a storage shed, as a community project.

BREAK

Speaker

Our speaker for the evening was Tasha Murray from the Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver. She gave an information-packed presentation on invasives in Metro Vancouver, mainly focussing on plants but also highlighting the European Chafer Beetle, the European Fire Ant and the Japanese Beetle. She was introduced and thanked by Rita de Raadt.

Following the draw for door prizes the meeting was adjourned.