

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

Welcome and Announcements

President Lee Bolton Robinson opened the meeting by welcoming members and visitors. Items to be included in the March newsletter should be submitted to Linda Stanley Wilson by tomorrow latest.

See Bryan Williams for an article on mason bees he would like to share.

Some recent work- in-progress of the executive committee was mentioned:

- revisions to the website
- development of a brochure
- examination of the constitution, bylaws and standing rules by a committee
- updating of the club's communication formats

Executive Report

Vice-President Karen Ewing announced that the club has a Sunshine Committee. If there are any members who are ill or who have suffered a bereavement please let her know so that a card can be sent.

Members were reminded of the AGM of the BCCGC being held on 10 March at the Firefighters Conference Centre, Metrotown. Sign up can be done online.

Thanks were given to Lori Ross for noticing that the wrong budget had been used to prepare the monthly financial statement. This has now been rectified. With reference to club finances, Karen mentioned that the club revenue target may not be reached due to the lower-than-expected membership to date. As a result, the executive is looking at ways to ensure that the target shortfall as approved by the membership is reached-either by finding ways to increase revenue or determining how to spend less than is currently planned in the budget.

Plant Sale

Anna Ludwinowski, who is ill, sent in a message, read by Lee.

The propagation day, where we pot up plants donated for the Plant Sale, will be held on Wednesday, 21 March from 9:30 onwards at Gwen and Paul Odermatt's property. Volunteers are asked to sign up at the back of the room for this opportunity to meet other members and learn more about plants. They should bring clean pots, secateurs, gloves and a snack.

All members were asked to look around their gardens to see what they are able to donate for the Plant Sale. There should be no more than 8 to 10 pots of one type of plant.

Program

Gillian Davis thanked Patti Chabot for a great wreath making workshop in December and Roger Phillips for his popular mason bee workshops in February.

March's speaker will be James Spears talking about vegetable gardening.

A visit to an alpine garden of 2 ½ acres in Chilliwack has been arranged for club members on 19 May.

Kathy Stark is arranging Open Gardens. She or any member of the Program Committee can be notified if you are willing to open your garden to club members.

Logistics

Claude Hewitt announced that insurance has been secured for the club's possessions in the storage locker. There is \$10,000 coverage for \$145 per annum.

He asked if any members have free standing shelving that can be used in the locker. He would like to do an inventory of items during the first two weeks of March but the date depends on good weather. If anyone can help with this they should contact him.

Darts Hill Weeders

Carol Wong explained how club members help to maintain a garden bed at Darts Hill garden and anyone who would like to volunteer should see her during the break. A Spring clean-up will be held during the last week of March.

Ocean Park Seed Library

Anne Sprung informed members about the Seed Library which is run from Ocean Park Library on the third Saturday of each month from February until November. The principle is simple: borrow, enjoy, return. Free seeds are available and in return people are asked to bring back some seeds at the end of the season. The next Seed Library is on 17 March. Anne will leave bookmarks at the front advertising the dates.

Richmond Seedy Saturday was also mentioned. This will be held on 3 March at Thompson Community Centre at 5151 Granville Avenue. This will feature talks on vegetable gardening and seed saving, and a seed exchange.

Ocean Park and Darts Hill

Lorna Fraser reminded members of the Darts Hill Garden's AGM on Saturday 3 March from 10am until 3pm at Emmanuel Evangelical Covenant Church at 17029 16th Avenue. There will be a talk by Susan Murray and lunch for members is included. Doug Justice will lead a walk around the garden. The Ocean Park Community Association is concerned with creating a welcoming, neighbourly and attractive community. Last year the Association received a grant to buy 14 planters. These planters have languished and the Association is now seeking a further grant to purchase plants and work with pupils at Ocean Cliff School to pot up the planters. OP Community Ass'n would like to recruit a SSGC/community member who can advise on the best plants to use, work with the pupils in planting and draw up a maintenance plan. Interested parties should see Lorna.

BREAK

Speaker

Our speaker for the evening was Dr. Richard Hebda, ethnobotanist. He was introduced and thanked by Joan Galloway who outlined Dr. Hebda's extensive credentials and accomplishments. His topic was Gardening –the Future: Native Plants for a Changing Climate. He left us with an inspiring quote: "it's time for nature to have a vote."

Following the draw for door prizes the meeting was adjourned. Members were able to purchase galanthus and camas from Dr. Hebda.