

Kennebec Valley Garden Club

Regular Business Meeting

October 6, 2015

Viles Foundation

24 members were present.

President Sharon Ann Paradis called the meeting to order at 1 PM. Joan Hague led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, Gardener's Collect and Conservation Pledge.

Our speaker, Robin Struck, was introduced by Karen Foster.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Minutes were distributed to members electronically and accepted with one correction; Wanda Hendrickson and Nancy Voisine are co-chairs of the Blaine House Decorating.

There was no correspondence.

The treasurer's report was read by Sharon Ann Paradis and filed for audit.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Cynthia Herrick, Birds and Wildflowers Committee told us about her adventure with a ruby throated Hummingbird and informed us of the amazing abilities of this tiny bird and distributed a handout with interesting facts about them.

Shirlene Gosline , Love Fund: sent a birthday card to Phyllis Longfellow, was asked to send a card to Rose Leavitt, Hope Weston, Jean Wave and Mary Oatway. She was asked to submit a voucher for postage.

Nancy Voisine, Garden Therapy Committee: asked members to help with the clean-up of our many gardens. Sharon Ann will e-mail the schedule to members.

THE HOSTESSES: Heide Munro, Julie Meagher, Anna Blodgett, Jan Karczewski were thanked for the refreshments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Daffodil bulbs are to be picked up at the Fall Conference. Heide Munro volunteered to distribute them.

The White Elephant Table at that Conference needs donations. If they do not sell, members are asked to take them home again.

Ellen Jackson and Karen Foster reported that the Soup Sale was a success, they sold 14 soups and 7 breads for a net income of \$404.02, \$28 is owed by Longfellow's and 2 cookbooks were sold for \$14.

They were thanked for a job well done.

The proposal from DR Struck for work on the Garden Club Park which includes removing all plant material and existing soil, adding new loam and compost to a depth of 6-8" and replanting the garden beds on both sides of the entrance for a cost of \$2700 was presented to members.

Ann Thomas made the motion to add an additional \$1,000 to the already approved \$2,500 from the Garden Club Park account to cover the overage of \$200 and any extra work that might need to be done; the motion was seconded by Julie Meagher. The motion was adopted.

Work on regaining 501c3 retroactively is progressing. If the application is accepted by IRS, KVGC will not be under the umbrella of GCFM, but will have its own tax exempt status.

Nancy Voisine spoke about the plans for the Blaine House decorations and suggested that in keeping with the "Children's Winter Wonderland" theme members could assist their children or grandchildren to make gingerbread houses to create a small village in the Pool room. The idea will be discussed with the Blaine House staff at the planning meeting at the BH on October 13th. If approval is given a sign-up sheet will be available at the regular club meeting, November 3rd.

NEW BUSINESS:

Members were asked to be thinking about an increase in club dues for 2016. Rational is that National Garden Club has increased their dues from \$0.50 to \$1.00, therefore the Garden Club Federation of Maine is increasing their dues from \$3.00 to \$4.00.

Shelly Hanson reminded members to sign up to receive the newsletters via the website: www.mainegardenclubs.org which has all information and links to many other sites. She offered to do this for any member, who is unable to do it.

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens offers a light show "Gardens Aglow" from Nov.21, through Dec. 31, 2015, every Thursday through Sunday 4-8 PM. Contact Courtney Locke 633-8070 for more information.

Next meeting is at the Blaine Mansion on Tuesday, Oct. 13th at 9:30 AM to discuss decorations.

Next regular business meeting is on Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2015, 1 PM Viles Foundation. The speaker will be Dave Richmond of the Veteran's Cemetery. This is also a workshop where members will be able to make two wreaths for our Blue Star Markers. The wreaths will be placed at the Arnold Look-out in Hallowell on Friday, November 6, 2015 at 10:30 AM and at the Maine Veterans Cemetery at 11:00 AM the same day.

The program was presented by Robin Struck, owner of Struck Landscape and Florist, who gave us many tips of how to put our gardens to bed for the winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 PM followed by refreshments.

Submitted by Heidi Munro