

KENNEBEC VALLEY GARDEN CLUB  
Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, April 3, 2018  
Viles Home, 71 Stone Street, Augusta, Maine

President Ellen Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM with 24 members present.

The Pledge of Allegiance, Gardener's Collect and Conservation Pledge was led by Jean Matheson.

Molly Wickwire introduced our program speaker, Amy LeBlanc, Whitehill Farm in East Wilton. Amy's presentation was "A Truly Sustainable Garden!"

New club member Joan Hanscom and guest Deb Sandler were introduced.

Secretary's minutes of the November 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were distributed to members electronically and posted on the website. They were approved as posted.

Pam Johnson gave the Treasurer's report, it will be filed as reported. Pam reported proceeds of \$374 received from the silver bowl at the Blaine House Tea in December. She also reported that \$2,000 had been dispersed for the two scholarships.

**Correspondence:**

A thank you note from Deb Sandler was read. Deb thanked the club for the opportunity of playing the harp at the Blaine House tea and for the framed picture of the harpist.

Ellen received a plant list for a company in Gorham that specializes in ground covers and perennials. She will scan the list post it on the website.

She also received a letter from the Waterville Aubuchon Hardware Store. They were getting ready to place their seed and plant order and asked garden clubs if there were any specific seeds or plants they would like to have added to their order.

The annual renewal request from the Viles Arboretum was given to Pam for processing.

**Reports of Standing Committees:**

Shirlene reported the passing of two long time former garden club members:

Colleen Weston, December 30

Kay Labrecque, March 2

She also encouraged members to stop by at Granite Hill Estates to visit Betty Carpenter, she would love to see visitors.

Penny Pray, Garden Therapy, reported about the Cabins in the Woods Project for homeless veterans at Togus. Volunteers of America would like to build a flower garden in the common area and is seeking help from KVGC. Penny will look at the area to assess and report back at the May meeting if this is a project the garden club would be willing to undertake. This project would be participation from all club members, not just the Garden Therapy Committee.

Debbie Sherman asked if anyone has material for the Spring Newsletter to get it to here as soon as possible.

### **Unfinished Business:**

Ellen thanked Sharon Ann for the website updates.

She also asked if someone would be willing to fill the club historian position, there were no volunteers.

Ellen gave an update about the Art in Bloom 2019 project. She has reserved the Lithgow Library and will probably be held on a Sunday possibly in February. This will be a fundraiser for the club and needs to have participation from the whole club and a committee needs to be formed to start working on details. She is looking for committee volunteers.

### **New Business:**

The plant sale will be held on Saturday, June 2 at the Manchester Fire Station and set up will be at 7:30 AM that morning. A \$60 reservation deposit has been sent and will need an insurance liability rider. We may need another banner and ideas for a new poster if anyone wants to help design it.

Members are encouraged to pot up their plants early to get them established, and healthy looking for the sale, have them labeled beforehand, pictures are always helpful.

She asked for volunteers to head up the Plant Sale Committee – Linda Bragg, Judy Gates-Kilpatrick, and Pam Johnson volunteered. Ellen will also serve on the committee. A sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers the day of the sale. If anyone needs help digging plants, let the committee members know. Sharon Ann and Ann Thomas will need help. Ellen has 200 pots available if anyone needs any.

Ellen reported that the stones for Elsie and William Viles have been placed near the sculpture that Elsie donated at the Viles Arboretum near the Visitors Center entrance.

A motion was made by Ann Thomas, seconded by Julie Meagher to set the date of June 23, 2018 to celebrate the 90<sup>th</sup> year of the Kennebec Valley Garden Club and to dedicate the “Tribute Bench” at the Viles Arboretum. The motion carried.

Ellen reminded members that we need to have participation from the whole club and a committee needs to be formed very soon to set this into motion, i.e. ribbon cutting, who to invite – include city officials, legislators, publicity, etc. She is looking for committee volunteers. Lesley Sprague, Sharon Ann Paradis, Penny Pray and Shelly Hanson were on the committee to obtain the bench. Sharon Ann volunteered to work with the Archive Committee to put pictures together and make “Burma-Shave” signs to put out along the road to the Arboretum. Shirlene will contact Hope to ask about information on the first garden club president – Mrs. Richard Goodwin. Ann Thomas said she has a copy of the minutes of the first garden club minutes from June 1928 and will get a copy to Ellen.

**Announcements:**

Ellen plans to hold an Executive Board meeting on April 17 at 12:30 at Antigoni’s Restaurant on Bangor Street and will send an email to the officers.

Ellen volunteered at this year’s Portland Flower Show and reported that plants sales of the different clubs in GCFM are listed on the GCFM website. She has volunteered to make a map of the regions/districts in the State to make it easier for the public to find a garden club in their area to join.

She reminded members of the GCFM Annual Convention – June 18, 19, and 20 at Sebasco Harbor Resort in Phippsburg and encouraged members to get registrations in if they plan to attend. If planning to attend only one day, Tuesday is considered the “fun day” with a garden tour, standard flower show and many other events.

Shelly announced the Annual Kennebec District Meeting with all clubs in the Kennebec District will be held on May 23 at Lakewood in Madison. This year’s meeting is being hosted by Bloomfield Garden Club; the theme is “Apple Blossom Thyme” with a speaker from North Star Apple Orchard in Madison. Details will be made available as soon as they are received from Bloomfield.

Ellen thanked the Hostess Committee: Sharon Ann Paradis, Cynthia Herrick, Laura Boyett, and Julie Meagher.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM. Next meeting will be May 1, 2018

Shelly Hanson  
Secretary