

KENNEBEC VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2018
Viles Home, 71 Stone Street, Augusta, Maine

President Ellen Jackson called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM with 27 members present.

The Pledge of Allegiance, Gardener's Collect and Conservation Pledge was led by Nancy Hill.

Ellen introduced our program speaker, Mark Brandhorst from Hall's Pond Gardens in South Paris. Mark gave a presentation of "Designing with Succulents".

Guests were introduced: Dr. Cynthia Winne, Readfield, guest of Debbie Sherman; Deb Cairns, Farmingdale, guest of Wanda Hendrickson; Shumay Likus, Hallowell, guest of Joan Hague; and Jane Wadleigh, Augusta, guest of Pam Johnson.

Secretary's minutes of the April 3rd meeting were distributed to members electronically and posted on the website. A motion was made to approve as posted, motion carried.

Treasurer's report was not available.

Correspondence:

Anya Goldey received a request from Cony Middle School asking for help from KVGC on May 21st, 8:00-10:45 for a Bio-Blitz Day. They are looking for help to identify plants, trees, birds, wildlife, etc. She suggested they contact the Viles Arboretum.

Reports of Standing Committees:

A brief Program Committee meeting will be held after today's regular meeting.

Ann Thomas read proposed changes to the by-laws; these proposed changes were made by the Executive Board. They will be voted on at the June 5th meeting.

Unfinished Business:

Ellen spoke about the plans to celebrate the 90th year of the Kennebec Valley Garden Club on June 23, 2018 at the Viles Arboretum and to dedicate the "Tribute Bench". She mentioned that Ann Thomas gave her a copy of records of the first KVGC meeting held in 1928 and found it interesting of all the activities the club had been involved in over the years. Ann also lent her files and pictures from previous garden tours and flower shows. She asked if a committee has had a chance to go through old photographs of the club, nothing has been done yet. Ellen will check with Mark at the Arboretum about the invoice for the stone bench.

Ellen reminded members of the Annual Kennebec District meeting on May 29th at Lakewood in Madison – “Springtime Along the Kennebec”, featured speaker Richard Robert, Director of the Maine Grain Alliance’s Heritage Seed Restoration Project. Registration forms were available, the cost is \$25, registration starts at 9:30, and registration deadline is May 19. KVGC will be donating a gardening basket for the raffle table. There will be a sale table if members would like to donate items.

Ellen reminded members of the May 15th Native Plant Forum hosted by the GCFM being held at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, registration ends today.

A reminder that the plant sale on Saturday, June 2 will be held at the Manchester Fire Station and set up will be at 7:30 AM that morning. Judy Gates-Kilpatrick will design this year’s poster. The club’s banner will be placed in the island at Route 202 & Route 17 intersection and will also have it listed on the sign board in front of the Fire Station.

Members will be digging plants in the next week or so for those who need help. Members were reminded to pot up their plants early to get them established and healthy looking for the sale, use clean pots and have them labeled beforehand, pictures are always helpful. Plant pots were available for members.

Ellen talked about the concern at the recent GCFM board meeting about the brown tail moth problem and how it is affecting plants sales of many clubs. Many clubs are not holding plant sales this year because they do not want to spread the problem to other communities.

Ellen thanked Jane Berthiaume for the information she provided on food trucks and will check into possibly having one available to sell coffee, etc.

New Business:

Ellen reminded members of the Annual Meeting on June 5th and that annual dues of \$20.00 are due at this meeting. She circulated a sign-up sheet for attendance; need to sign up before May 29th.

The Board Meeting is at 10:30 AM for **all** committee chairs or alternates, committee chairs were reminded to bring reports to this meeting.

The Parsonage House Catering will cater again this year. The menu will be chicken salad croissant, salad, soup or seafood chowder, panna cotta with fresh fruit; there will be gluten free and vegetarian options.

The cost of lunch will be \$20.00 per member and Lunch will be served at 11:45

Announcements:

Ellen reminded members of the GCFM Annual Convention – June 18, 19, and 20 at Sebasco Harbor Resort in Phippsburg, registration deadline is May 18.

Ellen mentioned a newspaper article about the historic iris bed at McLaughlin Garden; they are making a new iris bed and are propagating irises to save the McEwen irises.

Ellen reminded members about July 11, 2018 Field Trip to Fernwood Nursery & Gardens at 1:00 PM at 58 North Ridge Road, Montville. Rick Sawyer will give a tour of the shade gardens.

\$10/person at the event and guests are welcome

Carpool as much as possible due to limited parking

Ellen thanked the Hostess Committee: Debbie Sherman, Jean Matheson, Jeannine Tarrio, and Heather Longfellow.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM. Next meeting will be June 5th, 2018

Shelly Hanson
Secretary