

RAPPAHANNOCK GARDEN CLUB MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2021

Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by President, Mary Hutya.

The Blessing was given by club chaplain, Joan Eremenko.

Birthdays: The following members were wished happy birthday: Joan Eremenko, Mary Jacobs, Mary Ann McKay, Ann Burgess, Ann Hecht, Alexa McGrath, Betty Otley, Ann Warner, Loya Wheatley and Ginni Baron.

Announcements: The president announced that Ginni Baron had agreed to fill the position of club historian. This position was formerly occupied by Francie Huggins who has moved out of the area. Trisha Tetlow is taking over the position of recording secretary vacated by Catherine Brincefield.

Budget: Treasurer, Bonnie Schaschek, reported that since the club didn't meet due to Covid-19 restrictions, no dues were collected nor were fund raisers held. Therefore, funds normally available for various projects are not available this year and some projects will need to be suspended temporarily. It was recommended and the membership approved suspension of the scholarship program for this year.

Yearbook: It was reported that the yearbook had had an extensive update and revision last year. It was almost ready for printing prior to meetings being halted. An email was sent recently asking all members to review the yearbook online and give any feedback to Carol Clark. Once all revisions are received, the yearbook update will be completed and the book will be posted as a PDF on RGC's website. Those members who have never, ever received a yearbook should let Carol Clark know. Only members who never received a yearbook will get a printed copy (budget restrictions are dictating policy).

RGC Website: The password for the website hasn't been changed in sometime so the group thought it should be done. A new password will be chosen and should be operational around September 10. Members will be notified of the password.

Free Health Clinic Garden: Debbie Burgess reported more work has been done on this garden with weeds being pulled on the Liriope side of the garden. The irrigation system still isn't fixed. Members were asked to stop by from time to time to water and pull weeds. The garden is being replanted to be more carefree and once the plants are established, will require less maintenance work. Sincere thanks to all members who have been actively helping in the garden.

Survey Results: Results of the recent member survey showed the no. 1 reason members join RGC is to learn more about gardening and get helpful advice. The majority of survey respondents felt lunches should be eliminated from meetings except for special events like Christmas; the number of times members exhibit horticulture and design during the meeting year should be reduced; and, there should be more tours of gardens. This year's program schedule takes into account all of these items.

Nominating Committee: It's time to set up a committee to identify candidates to run for the Executive Board. Carol Clark agreed to chair the Nominating Committee. Debbie Burgess and Ginni Baron agreed to serve on the committee. The committee will present a slate of officers to the membership during the April meeting. The new Executive Board will be installed during the June, 2022, meeting.

Horticulture/Design Awards: Ginni Baron was awarded 4 Blue; Debbie Burgess received 10 Blue and Judy Burlbaugh was awarded 7 Blue and 2 Red. Best in Show went to Ginni Baron.

Plant Exchange: A really fun plant exchange was conducted. Amid a lot of laughter, members provided interesting information about the various plants they brought to exchange. Everybody went home with a new plant.

October Meeting: RGC's October meeting will be a tour of Good Luck Cellars Winery. Members will drive themselves (there's plenty of parking available). Members should plan on arriving at the winery around 12:30 p.m.

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.