

**WILLIAMSTOWN GARDEN CLUB  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
Tuesday, November 8 at 1:00 p.m.  
Sheep Hill – Williamstown Rural Lands**

**MINUTES**

- A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Maria Siskind welcomed members and our speaker and called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Twenty-six members attended.
- B. REPORTS:
1. President's Report (Maria Siskind):
    - a) Maria introduced new member Lynn DelNegro, and thanked Linda Conway for organizing today's program. She thanked the Hospitality Committee for their fine work.
  2. Vice-President's Report (MJ Downing):
    - a) MJ reported on the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. The project is to design a park on village green land in front of the Masonic building at the top of Water Street to celebrate WGC's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. Additional members are sought for this creative, cerebral, no-lifting project.
  3. Membership Report (Kathy McKnight):
    - a) Kathy noted Bob Kampe and Linda Dragat have joined the Membership Committee. Stephen Dankner is a new member. A new membership brochure is being printed with a new logo. Volunteers are needed for WGC's table at the Penny Social in the Lasell Gymnasium on December 3 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
  4. Corresponding Secretary's Report (Joan Wright):
    - a) Joan will send flowers to Honorary Member Rita Watson, who is ill, and has sent condolences and flowers to Judy Edwards upon the recent death of her husband.
  5. Programs Committee (Karen Pellegrini):
    - a) The Greens Workshop will be at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 6 at the Harper Center. Please bring your own low 6" diameter containers to make arrangements.
    - b) The Holiday Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at the Gramercy Bistro. Only 36 seats are available, and attendance is limited to members only. The \$30 fee must be paid in advance to secure a seat.
    - c) Club dues for next year will be \$35, \$55 for associate members payable via mail or in person at the Holiday Luncheon.
  6. Reminder of upcoming dates and events:
    - a) Holiday Greens Workshop, coordinated by Katie Lanoue. Tuesday, December 6, 1:00 p.m. at the Harper Center.
    - b) Holiday Luncheon, Coordinated by Karen Pellegrini and Linda Conway Tuesday, December 13 at Gramercy Bistro.
- C. INTRODUCE SPEAKER: Linda Conway welcomed our speaker, Williams College Professor of Russian

Emerita Darra Goldstein. Darra is a scholar and author on world cuisine, having published 17 books and is the founding editor of *Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture*. Her talk: “From Garden to Table: The Case of the Potato”.

1. Darra traced the expansion and checkered acceptance of the potato from its use in Incan civilization in the 13<sup>th</sup> Century to its current 4,000 varieties and widespread use today.
2. Darra’s favorites potatoes to grow are “Baltic Rose”, Yukon Gold, Carola for storage, and Russet for baking.

D. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.

Submitted by  
Karen Parker, Recording Secretary

December 13, 2022  
Holiday Luncheon Summary:

The Holiday Luncheon at Gramercy Bistro on December 13<sup>th</sup> was a delightful event. Thank you to Karen Pellegrini and Linda Conway for their fine planning. Twenty-four members attended – including new members – greeted with a Bistro-original mocktail or cocktail. Maria spoke briefly to welcome everyone. The buffet lunch included a soup course, selection of Italian charcuterie, seafood paella, and two excellent dessert choices. The spirit was decidedly warm, and several group photos were taken afterward.