

WILLIAMSTOWN GARDEN CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 10, 2023 following the annual meeting
St. John's Church, lower level

- A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.
- B. CONFIRM QUORUM: Attending: Maria Siskind, Betty Iannitelli, Kathy McKnight, Denny Meneghelli, Margo Melito, Susan Montiel, Karen Parker, Pat Wilk, Joan Wright. Absent: Diane Van Kempen, Carol Oshinsky.
- C. APPROVE MINUTES:
- 1) Minutes from the September 11, 2023 Board Meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
- D. REPORTS:
- 1) President's Report (Maria Siskind):
 - a. Maria thanked everyone for their contributions to the club activities.
 - b. Signed conflict of interest forms were collected.
- E. NEW BUSINESS:
1. **New board members were introduced.**
 2. **There was a discussion of record-keeping duties** of new officers. Records kept by outgoing officers re available in two forms: Karen Pellegrini has paper files of existing club records. Susan Montiel keeps electronic records. Minutes, as well as the club bylaws, are posted on the Williamstown Garden Club's website. The user name is WGC. The password is ROSES.
 3. **Carol Oshinsky was unanimously approved as treasurer**, replacing Marilyn Faulkner, at the annual meeting prior to this Board of Directors meeting. We discussed the transition of treasurer's duties. Records are kept in Quicken. Denny Meneghelli volunteered to make regular checks of the WCG post office box, and to make deposits of any checks that have been mailed to us.
- F. OLD BUSINESS:
1. **Plant sale.** We netted about \$2,760 from the combined plant/bake sale. Do we need the income generated? If so, how much? Do we wish to include a bake sale in the future? (The bake sale income was about \$425). How does the bake sale portion fit with our mission and needs? Should we do it on a Friday, the college students are out and about, and more likely to find us? Should we relocate it to the Paresky Center at Williams College? Is our purpose both exposure of the club and earning income? We don't really need the money. We don't currently have someone who has volunteered to be in charge of it. There's a storage issue: gathering and

keeping all of the plants for the sale is a lot of work. We see this event largely as community outreach. There is no other plant sale in the community. We need to make a final decision by January, when our club booklet will be printed.

The Board decided that it would like to continue the fall plant sale on a slightly smaller scale, with an eye on the charitable objectives of this event. We want to focus on educational material, and high quality plants. We would like to consider going back to the Williams College campus, on a Friday, because the college students and staff members are our primary clients. We need to appoint a committee in order for this event to succeed.

2. Holiday luncheon update. (Karen Parker) This year the holiday luncheon will be held at the Williams College Faculty Club. There will be live music. There will be some old photos from the Williamstown Historical Museum on display. The cost to us will be between \$13 and \$15 per person, for food, plus about \$200 to pay for three hours of time for the bartender and the wait staff. This will be a much more cost-effective event than last year's location offered. We will have cocktails at 12:15 p.m., and go upstairs to the buffet at 12:45. This may present a mobility issue for some of our members. We agreed to have a champagne toast celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Williamstown Garden Club, at a cost of \$102.00

G. NEXT BOARD MEETING: Our next general membership meeting will be Tuesday, November 14, 1:00 p.m. at St. John's Church, Lower Room. This meeting is being organized by Diane Van Kempen. Dale Scalise will speak on building terrariums.

H. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Submitted by Pat Wilk, Recording Secretary