

WILLIAMSTOWN GARDEN CLUB
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.
Harper Center

- A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Maria Siskind called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. Twenty member and guest Marie Doensch attended.
- B. WELCOME: Maria welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked members for their hard work on our successful Plant/Bake Sale last Saturday. Our efforts netted about \$2,760. She thanked the Nominating Committee for the strong and full slate of candidates they prepared for vote at our Annual Meeting on October 10 and Betty Iannitelli and Louise Rutland for chairing Hospitality and for their work today.
- C. SPEAKER: Maria thanked Anne Tiffany for inviting her long-term friend and former colleague Thelma Shoneman to present today's program, "Floral Designs Come in All Sizes." Anne was unable to attend, so Diane Van Kempen introduced Ms. Shoneman, a Master Level Nationally Accredited Flower Show Judge.
1. Thelma was well-prepared, with each of her arrangements already started. She worked from smallest to largest, beginning with a "petite" presented against a 5"x5" background and working up to an arrangement large enough to top a pedestal.
 2. She demonstrated inventive use of birch bark as a diagonal presence in one arrangement, small dried curly-stemmed garlic scapes in another, grasses wrapped in metallic wire, and inserting stem ends of aspidistra leaves through slits in the leaf to create curling, flowing forms. A particular hit was using "deco beads" soaked in water as a filler to suspend items in a clear vase. When water was poured over the beads they disappeared, leaving the impression of orchids and limes suspended in water. It was delightful to see each design reach full expression through her patient additions of well-chosen plant material.
- D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none
- E. NEW BUSINESS: none

F. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: none

G. NEXT MEETING DATES:

1. Tuesday, October 10 at noon for potluck luncheon and 90th Anniversary recognition. 1:00 pm for Annual Meeting in St. John's Church Lower Room.
2. Tuesday, November 14 at 1:00 pm in St. John's Church Lower Room: Creating Terrariums, presented by Dale Scalise.
3. A list of supplies for each person to gather will be coming soon so that you may create your own terrarium, either to keep or give away. If you do not wish to make one of your own you may observe or assist others.

H. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Submitted by

Karen Parker, Recording Secretary