

**WILLIAMSTOWN GARDEN CLUB**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**January 20, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m. Milne Public Library Board Room and via Zoom**

- A. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Karen Parker called the meeting to order at 1:10
- B. CONFIRM QUORUM: Present were Betty Iannitelli, Delia Marshall, Susan Monteil (via Zoom), Kathy McKnight, Karen Parker, Maria Siskind, Joan Wright, Pat Wilk. Absent: Carol Oshinsky
- C. APPROVE MINUTES FROM PRIOR MEETINGS: Tabled. We need to circulate a edited version of our last board minutes to members.
- D. DISCUSSION TOPICS:

Establish a nominating committee of the board charged with filling key positions that are vacant or likely to be vacant. How do we identify club members with the skills needed? How do we, as a club, support them in their roles?

We need an acting treasurer. Susan, who has spoken with Carol several times since her stroke, reports that she is home from rehab and getting stronger, but still cannot walk or use her left arm. Susan feels that we don't need to appoint a temporary treasurer. She volunteered to perform that job.

Long term, for the next operating year, the club needs a treasurer, a president, a vice president, and a web site manager. We need to recruit people now who have the skill set we need for these jobs, and have an interest in making more of a contribution to the club. We brainstormed some names of talented and energetic people we would like to have as club officers.

Denny, Kathy, Donna, Delia have volunteered to form a short-term brainstorming committee. Delia will convene the meeting of those3 individuals and report back to us with the results.

We discussed the challenge of maintaining the website. Susan feels she is in over her head with this task. We agreed that we have the funds to pay somebody to maintain our website if we find the right person. Brianna Kristie, a young woman with technology skills who was recently hired by the library, was mentioned as a person who might like to take on a paid position helping us with the WGC web site. (Susan reports that this takes only about half an hour a month, although we have a lot of backed-up work that needs to be done because of our past problems. Matt, who has previously helped us on a volunteer basis, is overbooked. We use Word Press for the site.

Maintaining the Constant Contact newsletter is another task that should be handed over to a communications person. We discussed a few talented individuals we would like to persuade to help us, including ndividuals including Mattie Kelly, Karen Lobdel, and Julie Reilly. Susan agreed to do a single-topic Constant Comment to discuss our long-term needs, and recruit members who might be willing to help us out. (Karen, Maria, and Sherry are on the programs committee; they would love to have one more person.)

Do we need checks? We can send copy of the bill to Susan, and she will pay it online. We could also take a picture of the bill with our cell phones and send that to Susan.

Prioritize 2026 club activities we have both labor and funds to accomplish. We need to simplify the plant sale. We still need somebody to be in charge of the plant sale. Kathy suggested our best option would be a drop of three people, each with different responsibilities. We need to have a discussion with Diane, who ran the propagation workshop last year.

Sustaining club visibility and membership. We returned to the idea of having plaques made for our key plantings. Kathy's described plaques at plantings she had seen in Boston, Delia mentioned a sign made of foam board, with metal spikes, like the election signs that get placed in lawns, featuring our logo. Kare volunteered to get some test signs printed. During this discussion, we returned to the idea of marching in the Fourth of July parade carrying large posters of the work we do around town. Someone suggested we march carrying large flowers instead of photographs of our plantings, so the effect would be like a grouping of flowers moving down the street. Joan volunteered to paint those flowers for us. She plans to use acrylic on heavy watercolor paper. Our current Fourth of July committee includes Maria, Betty, Fern, Karen, and Licia.

A timeline of WGC activities for 2026. We brainstormed ideas:

The tulips show in NorthHampton, touring the greenhouse at Smith College. Their sprig bulb show , March 7-22, is a blaze of color. We talked about how nice it would be to hire a van to take us.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Delia reports that we are spending \$3,000 on containers and plants; we have ordered 404 plants. We have 46 barrels and containers, and counting, plus plantings at the Post Office, Town Hall, Hopper Road, Spring Street, and 10 Boxes o Walley Bridge—five on each side. Kathy re3ports that the metal fabrication students at McCann Technical School enjoyed this project, and they would like to refurbish more flower boxes for us. The club has five additional boxes in storage.

We discussed a memorial gift to the Williamstown Garden Club made in honor of Jean Lee, which was donated "for the endurance of field Park." What specific plans do we have for those funds? Currently, they are in our long term savings account. iHer step son, Henry Lee, who lives with his wife Maureen on Green River Road, spoke to Kathy twice about making a donation to the fund.

D. NEXT MEETING DATE: June 23. We will set a march date.

E. ADJOURNMENT: Pat moved to adjourn, Delia seconded, and Karen adjourned at 3:15

Submitted by

Pat Wilk, Recording Treasurer

Approved March 24, 2026