

**Bedford Garden Club
Executive Committee Meeting
201 Croton Lake Road
October 3, 2018**

Attendance: Nancy Kronenberg, Tina Winchester, Robin Ashley, Nancy Vincent, Janet Robinson, Mary Finnegan, Cynthia Mas, Ellen Conrad, Jayni Chase

Liza welcomed us to her home for the Oct 3, 2018 Executive Committee meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Tina Winchester reported that membership dues are paid, with the exception of dues for 17 members, all of whom have been contacted and reminded. Liza asked Tina to send her a list of those still to pay and Liza will contact them.

Tina reported on the success of the June Bedford Playhouse Film Benefit featuring a showing of the documentary film, *The Gardener*. Our share of the funds raised were over \$1,700, which will be used to increase funds available for our BGC internship program.

Tina provided a summary of our club's savings and checking accounts. A discussion ensued about how and where to place some of the excess funds to provide additional income for the club's activities.

Tina asked about this year's internship program headed by Tori Cox. During the 2018 summer, we provided two internships of \$1,000 each. One was an intern for the Westmoreland Sanctuary and was awarded to Alexandra Rinaldi, and the other intern was Megan Conway at Bedford Audubon. Tina reminded the Executive Committee that the Internship budget had been increased to \$4,000 for 2019. Liza mentioned that Rusticus has done a good job with their internship program and that, perhaps, we should compare notes with them.

A general discussion followed about Project Review chaired by Mary Kendrick. The Westchester Land trust has already sent in a proposal. Ellen Conrad mentioned that Bedford 2020 would be interested in submitting a proposal to Project Review.

Liza announced that our club has been asked for help with financing an upcoming community education event at the Bedford Playhouse. It would be an evening showing of a documentary film about climate change, *C-Change*, produced by the Princeton Garden Club. Bedford 2020 will provide information about ways we in Bedford can support a healthier environment. The coordination of the event has been led by Rusticus, and we would share the expenses for bringing this presentation to our community. Our contribution is expected to be about \$1,000.

Conservation and Civic Affairs;

Ellen Conrad and **Jayni Chase** had recently held a highly informative Soil Testing workshop at Jayni's house led by Karen Simon from Rusticus. Karen showed how to dig soil samples from different locations on one's property and send them to a lab which generates a report on the different components or chemical elements in one's soil. The workshop was well attended with 15 members present. Ellen and Jayni want to get more properties involved with more people

sending in samples. They're suggesting a "buddy system" with those who attended the workshop working with other club members to show how to dig up samples and send them to the lab. The goal is to show that not all gardens and lawns need the same fertilizer treatments. By using, or over using fertilizers, the nitrogen and phosphorus levels rise seeping into our ponds and lakes creating an unhealthy environment. At our next general membership meeting, soil testing forms will be passed out.

BranchOut!

Heather Langham and **Virginia Maybank** led a discussion on future activities for BranchOut! at a meeting at Virginia's on September 17. The meeting was widely attended. A plan previously considered whereby trees would be planted along Rte. 172 in front of Sunnyfield Farm is now thought to be financially unwise. The two have recommended replacing some of the trees in front of Key Foods in Bedford that have died. Others that were planted a few years ago, they noted, are looking healthy now. The suggestion was made that anyone subsidizing the planting of a tree might be offered the opportunity to place a plaque on the tree as a memorial for a loved one.

Liza reported on news from the following committees:

Robin Ashley and Dana Worlock are helping to organize the Greens Day Boutique event in December.

Liza and Mary Finnegan will hold a meeting to organize hostess committees.

The Spring Fundraiser on June 15th will be held at Deirdre and Jim Glascott's, and is being organized by Lynda Morris and Holly Warshaw. Many of our members are signing up for different committees.

The "Bring your own Vase" flower arranging event will be held at Varner Redmon's on November 20, 2018. The cost for each participant will be \$50.

Membership: Janet Robinson said that two spaces are available for new members.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Foulke