

THE BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, November 10, 2008
At the home of Varner Redmon

Present: Ellen Conrad, Suzanne Bowers, Wendy Cushman, Leslie Wortman, Heather Langham, Janet Connors, Lindsay Matthews, Kim Morris, Varner Redmon, Janet Robinson, Bitsy Tatnall, Anita Stockbridge.

Call to order: Ellen Conrad called the meeting to order.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: There was a motion to waive the reading of the report. The motion was passed.

Recording Secretary's Report: There was a motion to waive the reading of the report. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Virginia Maybank was not present. Ellen Conrad circulated several copies of Virginia's report; no review or discussion ensued.

Standing Committee Reports:

Garden History and Design: Varner said she had not scheduled a meeting due to the already busy and full BGC calendar.

Exhibition: Leslie Wortman announced there would be a challenge class at the February general meeting. The class will be judged by a GCA panel. A discussion of the 2/18/09 date followed as there is a conflict with the public school calendar. Rescheduling to 2/25 will be confirmed. (This change requires rescheduling Bedford Historical Hall, the judges, and hostesses).

Greensday: is scheduled for December 3rd. The morning will begin with coffee and holiday boutique shopping. Tables with community wreaths and materials will be set up for interested members wanting to get started early. The general business meeting is scheduled for 9:30 and will be followed by a live wreath making demonstration and workshop by Dottie Kratt. BGC will supply the materials to make 12 living wreaths for the workshop portion; the workshop is open to all interested members. The living wreaths will be sold to cover the cost of the materials. Village wreath making will take place during this segment as well. The morning should conclude at 11:30 when community wreaths will be delivered.

Annul meeting: Leslie said she plans to have an in-house Flower Show at the annual meeting in June.

Horticulture: Dominique Buaron was not present. There was no horticulture report.

Conservation: see Environmental Summit

Environmental Summit: Ellen Conrad gave an overview of the structure (opening key note speaker, workshops, expos, lectures, paneled discussions, youth initiatives) and impressed upon those present that this Summit has real legs and is growing and evolving at a tremendous pace. Forty five community organizations have responded, along with state and local politicians, policy experts, and nationally recognized authorities on a wide range of environmental issues. It was expressed that this Summit goes well beyond the concept of environmental education and

embraces the more expansive idea of providing a platform for participants to mobilize and develop environmental efforts in their schools and communities well beyond the Summit (such as the formation of a Bedford EAP sustainability council). In essence, the Summit is a call to action and aims to change the paradigm of what is possible.

The Summit will strongly encourage the formation of partnerships; Fox Lane students, for example, interested in learning more about native plants would partner with Rusticus, a Club with a particular interest and knowledge in this area.

On the organizational side of things, there was a discussion of how to best organize the BGC volunteers. Suzanne Bowers suggested and volunteered to do a master sign up sheet similar to the community service sign up sheet listing the various opportunities. A general consensus emerged that before a sign up sheet could be circulated an explanation of the Summit volunteer opportunities was needed as well as feed back from Summit committee heads.

Miscellaneous Summit mentions:

- Wendy Cushman suggested that GCA has scholarship money available and this resource should be researched for the youth initiatives.
- Fund Raising – A fundraising letter will go out and there will be several contribution levels.
- A public relations person has been hired.
- There will be an admission charge. Participants will pre-register for an entire days worth of offerings. Lunch will be available.

Membership: Suzanne mentioned there are 5 to 6 prospective members including 3 definite proposals by Wendy Cushman, Bitsy Tatnall, and Heather Langham. Suzanne wants to put all prospective member forms and guidelines on the website. She reviewed the prospective member questionnaire and changes will be made to several of the more outdated questions. There was consensus that going forward this questionnaire should be used as it captures useful information. The topic of our member data base was discussed and there was general agreement that this should be computerized. Heather Langham said she would ask Claire Crasto if she would be available to do the data entry and her cost per hour. Reviewing the membership by-laws, Suzanne pointed out minor membership by-law wording that should be eliminated. Ellen commented that the role of Membership Chair is going to take on a much more meaningful role in the future.

Lastly, Suzanne will oversee the BGC correspondence when a BGC member passes away. She will identify the BGC member and friend to write the tribute. In this same vein, there was general agreement that there needs to be a discussion of BGC's role in the care of our members.

November 21, 2008 Fundraiser: All systems are go. There was agreement that the featured live auction items (the England and Lake Tahoe homes, and Farr on Film movie night) will be sent out via email by Varner in advance. Partnering with other couples or families was discussed as a strategy for marketing the lovely and unique homes.

Next Executive Meeting: January 14, 2009 at the home of Heather Langham.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

**THE BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Monday, November 10, 2008
At the home of Varner Redmon**

Present: Ellen Conrad, Suzanne Bowers, Wendy Cushman, Leslie Wortman, Heather Langham, Janet Connors, Lindsay Matthews, Kim Morris, Varner Redmon, Janet Robinson, Bitsy Tatnall, Anita Stockbridge.

Call to order: Ellen Conrad called the meeting to order.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: There was a motion to waive the reading of the report. The motion was passed.

Recording Secretary's Report: There was a motion to waive the reading of the report. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Virginia Maybank was not present. Ellen Conrad circulated several copies of Virginia's report; no review or discussion ensued.

Standing Committee Reports:

Garden History and Design: Varner said she had not scheduled a meeting due to the already busy and full BGC calendar.

Exhibition: Leslie Wortman announced there would be a challenge class at the February general meeting. The class will be judged by a GCA panel. A discussion of the 2/18/09 date followed as there is a conflict with the public school calendar. Rescheduling to 2/25 will be confirmed. (This change requires rescheduling Bedford Historical Hall, the judges, and hostesses).

Greensday: is scheduled for December 3rd. The morning will begin with coffee and holiday boutique shopping. Tables with community wreaths and materials will be set up for interested members wanting to get started early. The general business meeting is scheduled for 9:30 and will be followed by a live wreath making demonstration and workshop by Dottie Kratt. BGC will supply the materials to make 12 living wreaths for the workshop portion; the workshop is open to all interested members. The living wreaths will be sold to cover the cost of the materials. Village wreath making will take place during this segment as well. The morning should conclude at 11:30 when community wreaths will be delivered.

Annul meeting: Leslie said she plans to have an in-house Flower Show at the annual meeting in June.

Horticulture: Dominique Buaron was not present. There was no horticulture report.

Conservation: see Environmental Summit

Environmental Summit: Ellen Conrad gave an overview of the structure (opening key note speaker, workshops, expos, lectures, paneled discussions, youth initiatives) and impressed upon those present that this Summit has real legs and is growing and evolving at a tremendous pace. Forty five community organizations have responded, along with state and local politicians, policy experts, and nationally recognized authorities on a wide range of environmental issues. It was expressed that this Summit goes well beyond the concept of environmental education and embraces the more expansive idea of providing a platform for participants to mobilize and develop environmental efforts in their schools and communities well beyond the Summit (such as the formation of a Bedford EAP sustainability council). In essence, the Summit is a call to action and aims to change the paradigm of what is possible.

The Summit will strongly encourage the formation of partnerships; Fox Lane students, for example, interested in learning more about native plants would partner with Rusticus, a Club with a particular interest and knowledge in this area.

On the organizational side of things, there was a discussion of how to best organize the BGC volunteers. Suzanne Bowers suggested and volunteered to do a master sign up sheet similar to the community service sign up sheet listing the various opportunities. A general consensus emerged that before a sign up sheet could be circulated an explanation of the Summit volunteer opportunities was needed as well as feed back from Summit committee heads.

Miscellaneous Summit mentions:

- Wendy Cushman suggested that GCA has scholarship money available and this resource should be researched for the youth initiatives.
- Fund Raising – A fundraising letter will go out and there will be several contribution levels.
- A public relations person has been hired.
- There will be an admission charge. Participants will pre-register for an entire days worth of offerings. Lunch will be available.

Membership: Suzanne mentioned there are 5 to 6 prospective members including 3 definite proposals by Wendy Cushman, Bitsy Tatnall, and Heather Langham. Suzanne wants to put all prospective member forms and guidelines on the website. She reviewed the prospective member questionnaire and changes will be made to several of the more outdated questions. There was consensus that going forward this questionnaire should be used as it captures useful information. The topic of our member data base was discussed and there was general agreement that this should be computerized. Heather Langham said she would ask Claire Crasto if she would be available to do the data entry and her cost per hour. Reviewing the membership by-laws, Suzanne pointed out minor membership by-law wording that should be eliminated. Ellen commented that the role of Membership Chair is going to take on a much more meaningful role in the future.

Lastly, Suzanne will oversee the BGC correspondence when a BGC member passes away. She will identify the BGC member and friend to write the tribute. In this same vein, there was general agreement that there needs to be a discussion of BGC's role in the care of our members.

November 21, 2008 Fundraiser: All systems are go. There was agreement that the featured live auction items (the England and Lake Tahoe homes, and Farr on Film movie night) will be sent out via email by Varner in advance. Partnering with other couples or families was discussed as a strategy for marketing the lovely and unique homes.

Next Executive Meeting: January 14, 2009 at the home of Heather Langham.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.