

**THE BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB
EXECUTIVE MEETING
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 5, 2003
ST. MATTHEW'S VESTRY ROOM
9:15 AM**

Present: Baker, Cote, Ehrlich, Edgar, Ferguson, Finnegan, Hamilton, Hennessy, McDowell, Morris, Mossman, Pierce, Redmon, Santomero

Call to order: Libby Mossman called the meeting to order.

Corresponding Secretary's Report: Kim Morris brought up the possibility of sending something to Hotchkiss School on behalf of Andrew Dwyer (Cindy Dwyer's son, who was recently killed in a car accident). Members decided that we should stick with BGC policy and refrain as we simply can't give to all members' families when tragedy strikes. Libby noted that members may be sending gifts on their own, anyway.

Kim has the attendance grids for 2002-2003 and will get a copy to Libby. Storrs will fill in attendance for executive meetings. Kim noted that the attendance may not be perfectly documented but Libby said that we just want to see who repeatedly does not attend meetings.

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

Treasurer's Report: Liddy Baker read through her report. The report was received and is filed for audit.

Announcements: Libby mentioned that the BGC is invited to attend the champagne preview party for the Greenfingers Flower show on Thursday, February 27, in Greenwich, CT. the cost will be \$50 per person. The invitation was passed around.

Libby also announced that our new President will be Liddy Baker!

Standing Committee Reports:

Civic Affairs & Conservation: Denise Santomero noted that the next Conservation walk and talk is scheduled for February 13 at the Ward Pound Ridge Reservation, at 9:15 AM. There will still be a slide presentation on the history of

the Reservation – regardless of the weather – and if there is snow, we will do some animal tracking.

Denise reminded members that OBEX is up and running and that she would collect recyclables at the February 19, public meeting at Historical Hall. It was suggested that perhaps Celeste could bring a sampling of her recycled products and give a brief (10 minute) talk to the group about recycling. She might also distribute directions for OBEX as well.

OBEX was mentioned as a possible location for a future field trip.

The Town Planning Board coverage is still not perfect. Captains will now be responsible for collecting their team's reports and getting them to Tanya Lowe. It was suggested that Denise should distribute forms or guidelines (explaining what to document) during these meetings.

Exhibitions: There will be a workshop at the Enchanted Florist on March 12 from 7:00 -8:30 PM. The fee will be \$20 per/person (this fee has been partially subsidized by the Exhibitions Committee).

Libby mentioned that volunteers (both experienced and novice) are needed to help with the GCA Rye Meeting in May. They need help on Saturday, May 3 through Tuesday, May 6 to do 65 arrangements. The following members volunteered to help: Kim Morris, Dee Edgar (?), Susan McDowell, Denise Santomero, and Kirk Ferguson.

Horticulture: There is a trip to Stonecrop scheduled for Wednesday, May 14 and to Oliver Nursery on Monday, May 19. There will be a brief workshop and we will purchase plants for our troughs and planters, and flats of alpines and succulents to be sold at Planting Day on May 21.

Members should have their bulbs out for Greenfingers and any other class entries.

We still need 6 cuttings for the GCA/Rye Meeting on May 3-5.

Membership: Pat Keasbey's membership status has been changed from Sustaining to Affiliate and her address change will be noted in Clippings.

Members voted on perspective new member, Lindsey Matthews, after a selection from her supporting letters was read by Selby Ehrlich. The vote was unanimous; Lindsey is a new member of the BGC.

Libby mentioned that she liked the Ridgefield GC's idea of giving new members a subscription to "Horticulture Magazine" or "Fine Gardening." Lisa Hennessy volunteered to bring copies of several gardening magazines to the next executive meeting

so that we could decide which magazine to give to new members (a one-year subscription).

It was decided that we would not use nametags for the upcoming Public Meeting. Perhaps new members could help with nametags in the future.

Programs: Libby remarked that our last meeting in Ridgefield was a great one and that our speaker, F.J. Trzuskowski, was fantastic. Our next meeting is a Public Meeting on February 19, at Historical Hall. They now have new shades to accommodate our slides! The cost will be \$150.

Libby mentioned that our April Meeting at Kirk's will include a simple luncheon (maybe just wraps and fruit) to accompany our video presentation. Libby will work on finding BGC funds to cover the lunch.

Correspondent to GCA Bulletin: Connie Hamilton was thanked for her hard work on getting our Ecotarium article published!

Founders Fund: We learned of the 3 finalists too late to include them in the upcoming Newsletter. Varner will e-mail the list of finalists to members so that they can e-mail her back with their vote. For those who do not have e-mail, a reply card will be sent.

Garden History & Design: Kirk Ferguson spoke about Varner's successful workshop at GCA Headquarters on Tuesday, February 4, for the Zone Chairs and Zone III club reps. 17 garden clubs were represented. The program was called "Garden Design Becomes Garden History...Identifying Gardens to Visit and to Document." The idea was to put together a research file with which garden designers and scholars can use.

John Jay Gardens: We need to do the initial John Jay clean-up by the first week of April as we have the Peony Sale on Saturday, May 10. The John Jay clean-up schedule for Spring and Summer will be in the April Newsletter.

Project Review: Bonnie is in the process of soliciting projects within the community on which to spend some of our October benefit earnings.

Seedlings: There will be a meeting in May for new members during which heads of committees will give a brief description of what each committee does. New members will include, Catherine O'Callaghan, Ann Paul, Sarah Kowitz, Lindsey Matthews, and any other new members.

Yearbook: We are looking for someone to help Betsey with this job as she is now working full-time.

Unfinished Business: Bonnie Trotta is in the process of putting the job descriptions together. Can some of the committee chairs with longer descriptions type in the changes and e-mail them to Bonnie in order to help her get them on the computer?

New Business: A sample questionnaire was passed around for members to comment on. This questionnaire will go out in the April Newsletter to all members, asking them to list three main things that they like and dislike about the BGC. No names are required. Finished questionnaires will go to either Libby or Liddy Baker.

The GCA would like to create a position called “web-mistress” so that we could monitor the GCA website, download manuals, etc...

The **next Executive Meeting** will be at Kirk Ferguson’s on Wednesday, April 2. There is no executive meeting in March.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

[Storrs Coté, Recording Secretary]