

**Bedford Garden Club
Executive Committee Meeting
201 Croton Lake Road, Katonah
April 4, 2018
9:30 a.m.**

Attendance: Liza Clymer, Robin Ashley, Ellen Conrad, Joyce Corrigan, Wendy Foulke, Deirdre Glascott, Debbie Gourd, Mary Kendrick, Nancy Kronenberg, Heather Langham, Diane Lewis, Janet Robinson, Anita Stockbridge, Nancy Vincent, Tina Winchester

Treasurer's report

Tina Winchester distributed a 2018-2019 Proposed Budget Worksheet for discussion. She noted that this year's budget is in balance.

Regarding the current year's budget, all dues, with the exception of those from two members, have been collected. As at previous meetings, there was discussion of the loss experienced for this year's Greens Day; the event will be managed differently this coming year by changes in the way the boutique and purchases of greens are handled. A discussion on Programs focused on the need to continue to engage high quality speakers as a means of keeping members interested in the Club and attracting new members. The tremendous success of our Flower Power fundraiser which generated revenues of \$53,000 will more than offset the unexpected loss in Greens Day and any other increased expenses.

Branch Out

Heather Langham reported that she and Virginia Maybank have been working on a plan to plant trees along Route 172 by Sunnyfield Farm. They think that, along with the private owner of the property and the Town, the Club may be able to finance and execute such a program.

Heather also mentioned that the trees planted a few years ago in front of the Hunting Ridge Shopping Mall in the Village need replacing. Other trees planted through our efforts over the past 10 years are, she assured us, doing very well. In the interest of continuing Branch Out's activities, she proposed including \$2,000 in the 2018 – 2019 budget for the committee's activities, adding to the balance that has not been spent over the last few years.

Horticulture

Robin Ashley and **Dana Worlock** spoke about the Plant Exchange that will be held at Tina's barn on Harris Road for our May 23rd general meeting. They outlined a number of ways in which the annual event will be special this year with new, interesting and "fun" plants available.

On April 11 they will be holding a workshop on espalier trees using apple and pear trees and, possibly, blueberry bushes.

Conservation & Civic

Ellen Conrad talked about the pollinator habitat project that Bedford 2020 is supporting. Two of the innovative projects which use solar arrays are being installed in Mt. Kisco. Ellen asked the committee to consider whether we as a club would want to be involved with hands on activity, financial support or

developing educational programs? The subject will be investigated further and discussion ended with no decision.

Membership

Janet Robinson told us that most of the supporting letters were in for two prospective members. Two other candidates will have their applications reviewed by the Membership Committee prior to the May Executive Committee meeting at which all four will be voted upon for membership as seedlings.

Programs

Joyce Corrigan announced that Liz Stein, Ph.D., Secretary, Audubon Society, will be the speaker for our April 18 General Meeting at the Bedford Audubon Society's ByLane Farm at 35 Todd Road, Katonah. Her talk will focus on how to design our gardens using native plants to support birds and insects.

In June, our Annual Meeting will be held at the John Jay Homestead. We will enjoy lunch and walks through the garden.

Other Issues

Liza followed up from our February meeting discussion about establishing a Bedford Garden Club Legacy Project. Under consideration are programs addressing the needs of the Women's Prison garden or Marsh Sanctuary garden. Both would be community projects that, it is felt, would re-invigorate members, giving them the opportunity to get involved in meaningful long-term projects, as well as demonstrate the Club's commitment to our community.

April Executive Committee Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held at 9:30 a.m. at the home of Liza Clymer on Wednesday, May 2, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Wendy Foulke
Linda J. Merrill
Recording Secretary