

THE BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday, July 2, 2008
At the home of Varner Redmon

Present: Ellen Conrad, Bonnie Trotta, Wendy Cushman, Bitsy Tatnall, Kim Morris, Leslie Wortman, Suzanne Bowers, Varner Redmon, Virginia Maybank, Heather Langham

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

Election of Officers: The Executive Committee voted on the slate of officers and the motion was passed.

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: Should different (lower) dues be considered for older members. A discussion followed and it was decided that the dues will remain the same for all active members (\$175). Virginia announced that the BGC needs to raise \$35,000 in the fiscal year 2008/2009 to cover our Civic and Education (C&E) and special projects commitments.

Announcements/Discussion Items:

Update on the Westchester Land Trust Project (WLT): In addition to the WLT, BGC is partnering with Rusticus on this project. The involved parties continue to sort out the financial and logistical issues of rehabilitation and usage.

Operations Committee: Will examine Sustaining and Associate categories. Varner stated she wanted to go on record that she strongly objects to these categories.

Shannon Triangle, Luquer Garden, Bedford Village Planters: A new date was added to the calendar: *Civic Day*. Scheduled for May 13, 2009, BGC will tend to the afore mentioned projects. Members will have signed up in advance for the project of their choice. It is hoped that 10 members will sign up for the Shannon Triangle, 8 for Luquer, and 15 for the Bedford Village Planters.

Library Tree: Two experts confirmed that the old Sycamore in front of the Library must come down (there are safety issues surrounding the condition of the tree). BGC was asked to help with the tree selection to replace the Sycamore. It was discussed that Rachel Ocken would be a good choice for Library Tree Committee Chair.

Fundraiser: The Fall fundraiser was cancelled due to not enough lead time. An alternate date was picked, November 21, 2008. A garden tour of members' gardens and open to the public was tentatively scheduled for Monday, June 27th. Bonnie Trotta will chair this event.

Schedule for 2008/2009

September 2008

September 10, 2008: Executive Committee meeting at the home of Bitsy Tatnall.

September 24, 2008: General Meeting to be held at the Bedford Golf and Tennis Club. Meeting agenda to include Standing Committees presentations and members' Civic Project selection, lunch to follow.

October 2008

October 1, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting to be held at the home of Bonnie Trotta.

October 15, 2008: Garden Design lecture will be scheduled (speaker and venue TBD).

November 2008

November 5, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting to be held at the home of Varner Redmon.

November 12, 2008: Bunny Williams lecture at the New Canaan Country Club, followed by lunch. (Exhibition lecture)

November 21, 2008 Fundraiser, cocktail party, auction.

December 2008

December 3, 2008: Greensday

December 10, 2008: Executive Committee Meeting to be held at the home of Wendy Cushman.

January 2009

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

January 31, 2009: Green Summit to be held at a local High School and co-sponsored by Bedford Energy Advisory Panel (EAP).

February 2009

February 4, 2009: Executive Committee meeting at the home of Virginia Maybank

February 18, 2009: World class flower arranging (speaker and location TBD)

March 2009 /no scheduled meetings

April 2009

April 1, 2009: Executive Committee Meeting /location?

April 15, 2009: Hort. Meeting/lecture in conjunction with GCA Project on Trees (speaker and location TBD)

May 2009

May 6, 2009: Executive Committee Meeting at the home of Suzanne Bowers.

May 13, 2009: Civic Day / Locations: Luquer Garden, Shannon Triangle, and Bedford Village Planters.

May 20, 2009: Planting Day at the John Jay Homestead.

June 2009

June 3, 2009: Executive Committee Meeting at the home of Ellen Conrad

June 17, 2009: Annual Meeting

June 27, 2009: Garden Tour/ open to the public

Standing Committee Reports:

Civic Affairs and Conservation: Bitsy Tatnall outlined plans for a Green Summit to be held in January and co-sponsored with the Town of Bedford Energy Advisory Panel (EAP). The Summit format will be workshops and lectures. The venue will be a local high school. The Summit organizers will seek the support and involve local politicians and organizations. This is a community outreach project intended to educate and call the community to action on pressing environmental issues.

Exhibitions: Leslie Wortman reported on the In house Flower Show. Leslie announced her plan to create an exhibition booklet of flower show arrangements.

Garden History and Design: a report was not given

Horticulture: Dominique Buaron informed the Committee of GCA's tree project *Preserving the past/Growing the Future*. Each Club will formulate a signature project to be identified by 3/09. The progress of the projects will be reported in 2013, the GCA bicentennial year. This prompted discussion of an overall Tree Project as the BGCs Centennial Project. Lee Roberts, the Bedford Town Supervisor, is interested in forming a Tree Planting Committee to undertake the project of replacing the dying Maples. Part of this study would include mapping Bedford Village trees and taking an inventory. All of this would dovetail nicely with the Library Tree Project.

Dominique announced the Hort Zone Meeting will be held on September 16, 2008 and BGC must enter a basket arrangement. Bonnie Trotta was asked to make the arrangement.

Programs: This was discussed in conjunction with calendar above

Membership: Suzanne announced changes in status she has received from Susan McDowell, Dee Edgar, and Joyce Espy. The Operating Committee will be reviewing the Associate and Sustaining categories.

Special Committee Reports

Clippings/Technology: Varner suggested that Committee Heads should be the ones emailing the entire club about workshops and points of interest as they are the RSVP contacts. Varner offered to help the Committee Heads set up an address book for emailing the entire Club.

John Jay Gardens: a report was not given.

Next Executive Meeting: September 10, 2008 at the home of Bitsy Tatnall.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.