

THE BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB
EXECUTIVE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday December 2, 2009
At the Home of Mimi Lines

Present; Mimi Lines, Polly Finn, Kim Morris, Rachel Oaken, Leslie Wortman, Cynthia Mas, Varner Redmon, Bitsy Tatnall, Heather Langham

Call to Order: Mimi 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 was not present and a treasurer's report had not been pre-submitted.

Agenda Topics:

GCA Founder's Fund Project- renovation, restoration, and landscaping of the gates at the 69th street entrance to central park (see BGC website for a description of the project) GCA is asking that each GCA club contribute \$25 per member to the project.

A brief discussion ensued; the general feeling was that because this project is right in our back yard (and over the years many members have been enriched by the presence of the Park) BGC will contribute the suggested amount.

A motion to allocate the funds for this project was put forward. The vote was taken and the motion was passed.

It was agreed that Virginia would designate the BGC fund from which the money would be taken.

The issue of how to access our members and weather it should be mandatory was left for a future discussion. (There was a brief discussion on adding it to the annual dues and weather it should voluntary as is the Perennial Fund contribution or mandatory.)

Communication- Kim Morris, as communication co-coordinator, explained that the objective of her committee is to keep the communication lines with our membership open. She explained the committee's three prong approach:

1. Website- This will be available to members only. It includes the BGC calendar of events, other BGC member information and related points of interest.
2. Clippings- The news letter has been sorely missed as it covers BGC activities which are not necessarily covered on the website such as write ups of trips, workshops, walks, and silver stars. Kim said Clippings would be published every other month and sent via email (and a hard copy will be mailed to the 5 or so who do not use email)

3. Weekly Highlights- a **brief** highlight of BGC activities to be sent out once a week. This avoids cluttering members' inbox with too many BGC emails.

Procedural changes – There was discussion that several procedural and job description changes, in relationship to members who have died, need to be adopted.

1. Rather than the 1st Vice President writing sympathy letters it would be the job of the Membership Chair to fulfill this function, as she has the background information on the member.
2. Every member will have a tribute written and read.

A motion was put forward to adopt these changes. The vote was taken and the changes were approved.

BGC activism- Several members have asked that BGC consider supporting local initiatives. The members present agreed that BGC is not a political organization and should not be engaged in politicized issues. It was also agreed that there is no harm in posting links to these causes/initiatives on the BGC website (members can send their articles to Varner for posting).

Greensday- Leslie Wortman explained that Greensday was going to be all about wreath making, returning to the original premise of Greensday. She will be giving a demonstration; there will not be a guest speaker. Members will make their own wreaths with beautiful and interesting materials supplied by Leslie. Members will also decorate the Bedford Village wreaths. The DVD of the Bedford Garden Club history will be shown on a loop throughout the meeting.

Project review- Bitsy Tatnall read her proposal asking BGC to support Kate Branch and her amazing work on the vegetable garden at Bedford Hills Elementary School. While the members present agreed that this is the type of project appropriate for BGC it was agreed that a set of guidelines needed to be established for reviewing prospective projects. Sally Kroll will form a committee to develop the guidelines. Virginia has the budget number for project review for 2009/2010 fiscal year.

Programs/budgeting- Programs needs a bigger budget because the honorariums have increased over time not to the mention transportation costs of the speakers. This led to a discussion on importance of coordination between Program Chair and the Committee Heads both in terms of subject matter and budgeting (co-sharing the speaker fee possibly). These issues of how to effectively coordinate and budget will require further review.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting time and place TBA.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Langham

