

THE BEDFORD GARDEN CLUB
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Wednesday May 6th, 2009
At the home of Ellen Conrad

Present: Ellen Conrad, Heather Langham, Kim Morris, Virginia Maybank, Varner Redmon, Bitsy Tatnall, Cassie Kernan, Adele Talty.

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 circulated a Proposed 2009-10 Budget. This budget reflects the changes to the operating expenses and civic contributions discussed at the April 1, 2009 executive meeting (see 4/1/09 minutes for details). To be discussed are the budgets for Civic and Education and Ongoing Projects.

Civic and Education/Special Projects

- John Jay Sun Dial Garden – In conjunction with the redesign of the paths, funded by the Homestead Friends group, Varner presented a planting design and plant list for a new garden, to be funded by the BGC. The project was initiated by Varner Redmon and Heather Langham in collaboration with the Friends group and the Friends Landscape Committee chair, Kathy Moreau. The new garden will present many opportunities for Garden Club members to learn more about growing, designing, and maintaining a garden. A motion to approve the 2009-10 budget of \$5000 for the Sun Dial Garden planting plan was put forward. The motion was passed. (\$2500 from the Newell Fund and \$2500 from Ways and Means). In addition, there is a carry forward of \$2500 budgeted for this year.

On Going Projects:

- Project Review- the executive committee considered the funding for several 2008-09 projects:
 1. Prison Garden: Libba Claude submitted a proposal to plant (boxwood, astilbe, pachysandra, soil, fertilizer) at the Prison. \$500 was requested; a motion was put forward and approved.
 2. John Jay Compost Bins: Kathy Moreau, the Friends Landscape Chair, submitted a proposal for making and installing three compost bins in the garden area to be used by the Bedford Garden Club, the Herb Society, and Rusticus. The total cost of the project is \$2000; these local gardens clubs, which maintain gardens at the Homestead, were each asked to contribute \$500. A motion to approve the \$500 was put forward and approved.

3. Garden at Increase Miller Elementary School- After carefully considering the project and request for funding the exec committee agreed that BGC needs to focus on the schools in our district; funding was declined on that basis.
- Bedford Village Tubs- a 2009-10 budget of \$2000 was approved.
 - Civic contributions- Bitsy asked that BGC contribute \$100 to the Eastern Division of the Nature Conservancy.

A motion to approve the 2009-10 budget was put forward, the motion was approved. Ellen added that all special projects must be reviewed every 5 years to make sure they meet the ongoing needs, goals and objectives of the Garden Club and its members.

Visiting gardens

Cassie Kernan gave an update of up coming trips and discussed possible dates for the July trip. (The 8th or the 15th with a preference for the 8th, date and trip details TBA)

Other business;

Wendy Cushman asked the exec committee consider the following:

- Organize a civic affairs committee to develop a program at the Prison.
- Organize a scholarship committee to help connect eligible students with GCA funds (of which there are many).

Photography- A discussion to consider a permanent Photography Committee took place. It was agreed that a dedicated photography committee is a good idea and should be pursued. There are many good photographers in Club and this is a way to engage them (and there is an increased emphasis on photography within GCA). (Photography is technically under the exhibition standing committee but Varner Redmon as Garden History and Design Chair has assumed responsibility organizing upcoming club photography classes).

Ellen closed the meeting by thanking Varner and Heather for their work on The Sun Dial Garden. To assure yours truly would include this in these minutes a motion was put forward to officially thank them. The motion was approved. Heather spoke for both herself and Varner when she thanked the committee for its support.

The next executive meeting is scheduled for June 3rd, at the home of TBA.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Langham

