

Plum Beach Garden Club Meeting

September 10, 2019

Marion Bartkiewicz welcomed members and thanked our hostesses, Debra Hughes, Janet Fernie, Elaine Lemieux, Jocelyn Metivier, Darlene Vincent, and Kathy Barrette.

Joan Peet made a motion to accept the minutes, it was seconded by Donna Dufault. The membership voted to approve.

There was a moment of remembrance for Nancy Davey and honorary member Alberta Miller. A memorial brick will be placed in OLP for Nancy Davy

The Welcome to Wickford sign has been repaired. Histwick paid for the materials and Jack Fronce and Bruce Dawson did the repair work.

Marion thanked Brenda Johnson and Kathy Romeo who helped her make arrangements for the memorial service for Betty Lou Pease.

Reports:

Treasurer Ellen Abell reported we have \$21,760.02 in the bank. This includes \$1200 received in remembrance of Nancy Davey. We have also received \$1,000 from Histwick for maintenance of the island gardens.

Marion reported for Linda Hughes, **2nd VP** that 4 cars are needed to transport the 16 members going to Roger Williams Botanical Garden. Drivers who volunteered, Kathy Romeo, Kathy Barrett, Sheila Skiffington, and Marion.

Betty Sue Reed reported for Sharon Pickering, **Membership Chair**, that there are 48 active, 2 associate, 5 honorary, and 1 on the waiting list. Andrea Sarransin was introduced as our newest member and a short biography about Andrea was read.

Linda Sollitto, **Civic Beautification**, reminded members of the monthly cleanup ay OLP on Friday at 8:30, but please come earlier if that is more convenient. She also asked members to let her know if they want to be on her mailing list for plant sales that she holds periodically during the year.

Sue Shriner, **Birds and Conservation** shared some interesting facts about the goldfinch. The goldfinch stays here all winter, is about 4 1/2 inches tall, and breeds between July and September; the female constructs the nest while the male gathers the materials which includes spider web silk, and sings to her as she works.

Nancy Beck, **Birds and Conservation**, talked about the monarch butterfly. These butterflies will begin their flight south from mid- September to mid- November. They fly solo about 12 miles per hour gathering at roosting sites during their long journey.

Barbara Dawson, **Awards**, announced our first place Award from the National Garden Club in the roadside beautification category for our Daffodil Project.

Barbara Halavik , **Daffodil Project**, would like to convene a committee to identify new sites for this year's daffodils and volunteers for planting them. A sign-up sheet will be passed around. She would like to meet next week. Also another sheet will be passed around for those members interested in purchasing tulips. Price: \$7.50 for 24, \$14.00 for 50 and \$60 for 250. Members can pay Ellen today or when they pick them up, time and place to be announced.

There was a brief discussion about possible new locations and our responsibility once the daffodils are planted.

New Business

Marion bought a collection box for members to place their change for the Federation's penny pines project which will be used to help restore burned forest areas.

The Nominating Committee has filled every position on next year's slate, except 1st VP, although five people were asked. The Committee presented the idea that we have two people fill the position. They would be Co-VP's and then Co-Presidents. Marion read a poem by Tamyka Washington.

"If you never push yourself to try something new, something a little uncomfortable, you will never know your potential."

Marion talked about the responsibilities of both positions, past presidents shared their experiences, and there was a discussion about the Co-President idea. Marion asked for a show of hands regarding the Co-President idea. A majority of members voted to keep it as a single position. Marion suggested we give it to the end of the week for someone to step forward to fill the 1st VP position.

At the last Executive Board meeting, a discussion was had to possibly change the meeting schedule; having a March Meeting and not meeting in July. After some discussion at today's general meeting, the members voted to keep the schedule as it is. So there will be no meeting in March, and a meeting in July.

There was a discussion about the Dunes Club fundraiser. Several members expressed concerns about burn out, too much responsibility, trying to reduce our financial commitments and our overall mission as a Club. The Ways and Means Committee will meet and expand on this initial conversation. They will report back to the membership.

Gail Stokes, **Website and Yearbook**, encouraged us to make better use the website. She feels it is underused, particularly the forum which is the only interactive feature of the site.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Devine, Recording Secretary