

BATH GARDENING CLUB & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

www.bathgardeningclub.com

SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2021

2:00 – 3:30 pm

Finkle's Park Gazebo

I. OPENING REMARKS – President Janice Firth

1. Welcome - Thank you to members and guests for joining us. 23 members were in attendance today. There were 3 new members in attendance who introduced themselves. Welcome to previous and new members!
2. Approval of Agenda – There were no changes to the agenda. Motion: to approve the meeting agenda Moved: Hildegard Dorosh Second: Pat Stebbins Motion carried.
3. Garden Quote – “Gardening is cheaper than therapy – and you get tomatoes!”

II. BUSINESS

4. Approval of the Minutes – June 28, 2021 A motion to approve the minutes from the meeting of June 28, 2021 was put forward. Moved: Sue Nilsson Second: Wendy O'Neill Motion carried.
5. Treasurer's Report – Laurie Minorgan The current bank balance is \$13,396.61. Grants and donations in the amount of \$8,883.50 were received last year. Of that, \$4,000 came from Lafarge, \$2,140 came from OMAFRA, and \$1,000 came from Trans Canada. As much of this was “one time” donations, \$3,000 from Lafarge, \$1,140 from OMAFRA, and \$1,000 from Trans Canada were not included in the 2021/22 budget. In expenses, speaker fees totalling \$575 were paid and honorariums totalling \$250 were paid to the hosts of the garden tour. Speaker fees in the amount of \$700 have been budgeted for this year. The budget will be presented in detail at the annual general meeting in October. A motion was put forward to accept the treasurer's report. Moved: Heather Bennett Second: Sue Nilsson Motion carried.

6. Fertilizer Update – Laurie Minorgan

Laurie reported that this year volunteers mixed 900 bags of fertilizer. 700 bags were sold, 30 bags were donated to the village planting committee, and there remains for sale 170 bags. These bags will be sold throughout the year at meetings.

The revenue from the fertilizer sales was \$2,645.81, and expenses were \$1,246.64, for a profit of \$1,399.17. There remains enough supplies in stock to fill approximately 100 bags. The sale will proceed again next year and hopefully generate more revenue.

7. Search for Recording Secretary – Janice Firth

The Club is looking for a replacement for the position of Recording Secretary. We are also looking for a volunteer to act as back-up for webmaster Sandra Lowman, and a volunteer to take a position as Director on the Board of Directors.

Please see Janice Firth if you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions.

8. Undies Challenge – Janice Firth

Several club and community members participated in the undies challenge. Many were surprised that the only remaining part of the undies planted was the elastic waistband or any parts containing elastic. This indicates that the soils are good for planting. Results of the challenge will appear in the Club Fall Newsletter.

9. Barrel and Main Street Update – Dawn Ford

Dawn extended her thanks to the members who did the weeding this summer in the barrels. She has sent an email to the township to arrange for the movement of the barrels to the back of Schell's, which should be around October 14 or 15. Volunteers to clean out the barrels and iron planters are needed. Please contact Dawn if you can help out.

Dawn asked members if they preferred single or multi-coloured flowers in the barrels, and asked that any comments, preferences, or suggestions be sent to her. Reordering will be starting in December. Plants for the bridge garden for next year will need to be more drought tolerant.

Many thanks to Pat Chown and Marnie Brough who looked after watering the bridge garden.

Janice will ask township contact Dave Swinton for assistance with the watering of the bridge garden and an increase in the grant for watering. The township will be advised of the condition with the weeds in the pavement areas around the barrels. Next year, the Club will try to get any homeowners or businesses who have barrels in front of their property to help maintain the barrels and the area around the barrels.

10. Bugtel Update – Janice Firth

Many thanks to all those who helped out with watering at the Bugtel this year. Watering will need to continue into October, until the opening of the memorial garden. Heather Morrow, Wendy O'Neill, Sandra Lowman and Nancy Willis volunteered to continue the watering. Laurie Minorgan will speak to Benny to advise that the watering for all of the town barrels and filling of the water barrel at the Bugtel should be continued until the barrels are removed.

The Bugtel is a very active place, with lots of bees and other species taking up residence there. A rare hummingbird moth has appeared there. A photo of this moth taken by Don Taylor is now on the Club website.

11. Bath Sunday Market – Janice Firth

Bob Moran, a vendor from the market in previous years, ran the Bath Sunday Market this year independent of the Club. Janice has written a letter to the township council asking that the park user fees, that were implemented last year, be waived for the next season. As we are hopeful that it will be safe next year, the Club will once again be the market host and pay a market manager to run the Sunday market, as this is a good source of revenue for the Club.

12. BGC Membership Fee Increase Next Year – 2022-23 – Janice Firth

The membership fee of \$10 per person and \$15 per household has been the same for the past 31 years. Costs associated with most Club activities including planting materials, speakers' fees, watering, etc. have all increased, as has the annual individual member's fees that the OHA charges each Club for each registered member. In addition, the workshop fees have only covered costs, and there has been no charge to members for the garden tours. In view of this, the Club executive discussed raising the membership fees next year to \$15 per individual member, and \$20 per family. The consensus of the members in attendance was that this was a good idea. This item will be raised at the AGM in October.

13. Ongoing Meetings – Results of Survey – Jeannie Pickles

The results of the email survey regarding members' preferences for future meetings were as follows:

In-person meetings – 25

Zoom meetings – 11

In-person indoor meeting – 4

Either format – 3

The majority prefer in-person meetings.

Janice advised that the next meeting will be held in person indoors at St. John's Hall. There will be no coffee/tea or treats at the meeting, as the kitchen is out of bounds. All members who attend must be fully vaccinated, and proof of vaccination may be required. Extra cleaning precautions will be taken, and attendance will be taken for contact tracing.

14. Fundraising – Options in Conjunction with November Workshop – Janice Firth & Sue Nilsson

Sue Nilsson brought along a sample of different craft items that could be made at the November workshop, or by volunteers to be sold to the public as fundraiser items. Some suggestions were Grinch trees in 2 sizes, or the Xmas gnomes like those made last year. A notice would be put out for people to be able to order an item. Orders would be limited. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

15. New Watering Team for Next Year – Janice Firth

As Benny will no longer be doing the watering next year of the barrels, etc., a new team of father and son Dave and Adam Bryant have agreed to take over this job. They are in the process of renovating a garden trailer, and will also get barrels and a pump to prepare for the job. The Club is very happy to have them on board for this job.

III. PROGRAM

TOPIC – Our garden challenges this summer	Members broke into small groups to discuss their ups and downs in their gardens this summer.
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