



Bath Gardening Club & Horticultural Society
2021-2022 Executive & Board Member Meeting
August 11, 2022 from 1:00 to 3:00 PM

Minutes - FINAL

Attendees	
PRESIDENT	JANICE FIRTH
VICE-PRESIDENT	MIKE JANSSENS
PAST-PRESIDENT/TREASURER	LAURIE MINORGAN
TREASURER	JANE LEDINGHAM
RECORDING SECRETARY	HEATHER BENNETT
ATTENDANCE SECRETARY	ELLY WARREN
PUBLICITY SECRETARY	HEATHER BENNETT
REP – PLANTING COMMITTEE	PAT CHOWN
BOARD MEMBER	HILDEGARD DOROSH
BOARD MEMBER	ROXANNA BEDDINGTON
Regrets	
BOARD MEMBER	DAWN FORD
BOARD MEMBER	MELANIE MYERS
BOARD MEMBER	JOANNA SPERINCK

#	ITEM	ACTION ITEMS
REPORTS		
1.	Treasurer – Laurie Minorgan Not presented	Action:
2.	Membership – Elly Warren There are 104 members of the BGC. Elly requested clarification of fee structure to be used when membership is requested outside of the Fee Collection Period. Decision - to be determined on a case-by-case basis. Membership renewals in September.	Action: Elly to revise existing Membership Renewal Form letter for distribution to members
3.	Sunday Market – Jane Ledingham Vendor (B) sent a letter to Jane stating that Bob claimed he had received complaints about inadequate labelling on her jars. Subsequently, vendor (B) has resigned from the market. Bob continues to be derelict in his duties.	Action: Jane to record all happenings going forward.

	Vote carried to close Market after Thanksgiving. (Mike Janssens abstained from the vote as he is a vendor). Hildegard requested clarification of insurance of vendors. Jane advised that most vendors already carry insurance Mike suggested we investigate becoming a Farmers Market	Market to stop after Thanksgiving Jane to retrieve key from Bob
4.	Village Planting – Pat Chown Dawn Ford is completing her mandate at the end of August. Pat has been working with Dawn for the past 3 years, and noted that Dawn has been an amazing mentor, and has implemented an excellent system. The Plant Committee (Dawn, Marnie and Pat) met on July 9 2022 to discuss the Village plantings. For full details of this meeting please see Appendix 1. In summary, the recommendations are: • <u>North Bridge</u>: Soil needs to be refurbished • <u>South Bridge</u>: Approach Township, again, to maintain the narrow bed. Reflective Safety Vests (3) be purchased by Club for volunteer use. Ask Township if Club may cordon off the area with cones and/or park a vehicle with flashers on • <u>Yard Waste</u>: Seek Township permission to put bags of yard waste from gardens/barrels, at local Township Garage • <u>Watering</u>: Written contract with Dave with monthly invoice - better reflect hours worked according to weather. Planting Committee to liaise with watering team to monitor effectiveness/needs • <u>Signs and Holders</u>: New holders to be purchased • <u>Barrels and Gardens</u>: Garden at Schell's needs to be reconfigured, and raised planters replaced/repared. Should Schell's be asked to contribute to this expense • <u>Iron Planters</u>: Determine viability of purchasing and locating new iron planters. Iron Planter at JPs to be relocated, at request of new owner • <u>Township meetings</u>: Recommend that Dawn and Pat attend the Fall meeting	Action: Janice and Laurie to check with La Farge regarding availability/timing of their staff volunteers Pat to obtain new holders for signs from Lee Valley Dawn, Jane and Township representative to discuss New Iron Planters and relocation of existing planter at JPs
NEW BUSINESS		
5.	OHA AGM meeting	Action: Laurie to share details of 2023 AGM with our

	Jane and Laurie attended the virtual Ontario Horticultural Association 2022 AGM via Zoom on July 16. For full details of this meeting please see Appendix 2. In summary: • 268 horticultural societies and clubs attended • 2021 volunteer hours totalled 299,678 • Club memberships declined in 2021 • All clubs received financial assistance from OMAFRA • 2023 AGM will be in Kanata, July 21-23; will feature several garden tours	members when available.
6.	18th September 2022 Meeting Janice is on vacation from Aug 24 to Sept 21, 2022, thus, a volunteer is needed to run the Meeting. Mary has volunteered her house. Elly will bring treats	Action: Janice to identify volunteer
7.	BGC Executive and Board Positions Diane Nolting and Kathy Dick have volunteered to assist Elly with the Membership during the winter months. Marnie has volunteered to be on the Board. Sue O'Connor may be able to be the Programming Secretary. No other members have stepped forward to volunteer for Executive and Board Positions	Action: Janice to send out another email asking for volunteers Janice to approach Sue re Programming position
Other		
8.	Summer Social Funding has not been allocated for this function. Available funds will be held over for next outing.	
9.	Discounts for Members A number of retailers who had previously offered discounts to BGC members have ceased to do so. Typically, Jeanne sent out form letters to retailers in September.	Action: New Recording Secretary to take over this task

Appendix 1. PLANTING COMMITTEE MEETING - July 9, 2022

In attendance: Pat Chown, Marnie Brough, Dawn Ford.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the issues that have arisen during planting season this year.

1. North Bridge: It was recommended that the soil at the bridge needs to be refurbished if it is to be planted next year. This will require some of the soil to be dug out, replaced and investment in coconut coyr. A specific area of the north bridge garden will be set aside as a memorial for Denys Maillot. Some of the older perennials eg spiraea need to be removed. There should be further discussion with Allison of SunHarvest about choice of plants for this area when ordering this Fall. The Sunpatiens are struggling and perhaps there needs to be a return to wave petunias that have formerly done well. Presently a neighbour is trimming the tall grass behind the guardrail on the north side; however, we feel this really should be done by the Township.
2. South Bridge: Discussion of the south bridge resulted in a request that the Township once again be approached to maintain the narrow bed along the guardrail on this side. Also, they need to be reminded to cut the grasses on the back side of the guardrail.
3. Reflective Safety Vests: it was recommended that 3 of these be purchased by the Club for use by the volunteers presently working on the south bridge. We understand that the Club owns cones. We question whether we have the right to cordon off this area with cones and perhaps park a vehicle there with its flashers on to increase awareness. This is a question for the Township.
4. Yard Waste: We would like to ask the Township to allow us to put our bags of yard waste from the gardens and barrels at a spot at the local Township Garage.
5. Watering: Although 3 times a week should suffice under normal conditions, we realize that our weather patterns are changing and we sometimes suffer from long dry spells. At these times, more frequent watering is required. At other times, we suffer from a series of rainy days when watering is not required. We feel the contract should be reviewed and designed on a monthly billing basis that would better reflect the hours worked according to weather. **We wonder whether the Executive would prefer the Planting Committee to look after liaising with the watering team to monitor effectiveness and needs.**
6. Barrels and Gardens: The garden at Schell's should be reconfigured. Firstly, it should be levelled, then covered with fabric, and finished with a good quality cedar mulch and perhaps Riverstone combination. Lastly, several of the barrels (we have 3 extra) would be placed on top for the plantings. This would provide for weed control over a large area and moisture control within the barrels. Should Schell's be approached to contribute to this expense? **The raised planters also need to be repaired or replaced. Again, is this a Schell's responsibility or will the Club invest in this improvement?**
7. Signs and Holders: We have some extra cards for the signs; however, we need a few more holders. Since the former metal holders do not appear to be available, it was recommended that we pursue finding sturdy plastic holders such as the nurseries use.
8. New Iron Planters: Dawn will pursue meeting with Jane Ledingham and hopefully a Township representative to do a walk about to determine whether purchasing and locating new iron planters would be a viable option.

9. It was felt that representation at a meeting with the new horticulture group at the Township would be beneficial. Dawn would be willing to attend as the past lead and Pat as the new lead.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn

Appendix 2. OHA AGM via Zoom - July 16, 2022

On July 16 Jane Ledingham and Laurie Minorgan attended the virtual Ontario Horticultural Association Annual General Meeting.

The OHA President, Charles Freeman, delivered his report. He welcomed delegates from the 268 horticultural societies and clubs from across Ontario, covering 19 districts.

Of note:

- In 2021 OHA recorded 299,678 volunteer hours, up from 2020 by 46,000 hours.
- Last year most clubs saw a decline in membership, however 2022 has seen an increase.
- While most clubs experienced financial difficulties, all received financial assistance from OMAFRA, which helped them greatly. OHA does not receive any financial assistance from OMAFRA.

Attendees were required to vote on a several resolutions, including approving the minutes from the 2021 AGM, the nomination of officers, appointment of auditors, approval of the treasurer's report and minor amendments to the wording of several by-laws. Details are available on Garden Ontario website under "Convention, AGM 2022 Highlights".

The 2023 AGM will be an in-person meeting running from July 21-23 at The Brookstreet Hotel in Kanata hosted by District 2. The convention will feature several garden tours. Details will be shared with our members as they become available.

The meeting was well organized and ran approximately 3 hours.