



BATH GARDENING CLUB & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

January 2023 Meeting MINUTES

Date and Time: January 16, 2023 from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Venue: St. John's Hall, Church St., Bath, ON

I. OPENING REMARKS – President Janice Firth

1. Welcome - Thank you to members and guests for joining us. There were 28 members and 8 guests in attendance today.

2. Approval of Agenda – There were no changes to the agenda.

Moved: Sue Nilsson: Seconded: Sylvia Whalen: Motion carried.

3. Garden Quote *If you have a garden and a library, you have everything you need. – Cicero*

4. Approval of the Minutes – AGM October 2022 – There were no changes to the minutes.

Moved: Heather Bennett: Seconded: Lynda Cohen: Motion carried.

5. Coffee/Tea Preparation – Social Time

There will be coffee/tea and treats at our monthly meetings. Thank you today to Ted Eedson, Pat Haslett, and Linda Cohen, for bringing treats, and to Joanna Sperinck for preparing the coffee/tea. Joanna will be looking for volunteers to bring treats for our February meeting. Please volunteer!

II. BUSINESS

1. REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – presented by Janice Firth on behalf of Laurie Minorgan

Bank Balance

The current bank balance is \$9,147.55; GICs total \$5,095.69 – matures May 2024.

Grants:

OHA - Completed by Janice

OMAFRA - pending (volunteer hours) - Laurie to complete - deadline February 1

Vibrancy Fund (Loyalist Township) - pending approval by Janice and Jane - Laurie to submit by deadline February 1 - seeking \$5,000 (\$2,000 for Bath Sunday Market rent subsidy and \$3,000 towards purchase of iron planters)

Lennox and Addington Activation Fund - waiting to hear back

Bath Sunday Market Report – presented by Janice Firth on behalf of Jane Ledingham

We continue to look for ways to turn the Sunday market into a true farmer's market and attract more vendors with food products from the local area, and high quality artisan produced crafts. While this change means revenues from the market will probably drop in 2023, we believe that this will result in a more attractive market for consumers in the long run. If you know of any vendors who might be willing to come to our market please contact Jane Ledingham at [613-850-3147](tel:613-850-3147), or ledijane@uottawa.ca

Village Planting – Pat Chown - Overview (please see the full report in Attachment 1.)

Barrels (42 large and 10 small)

Cannas proved a very successful planting for the summer of 2022. However, the Sunpatiens were over-run by the cannas! Allison Shannon of SunHarvest advised that the larger root system (tuber) of the



canna grabs the water first leaving the Sunpatiens lacking in the water needed for them to grow. Subsequently, cannas, trailing Portulaca (instead of Sumpatiens) and Sweet Potato Vine will be ordered for the barrels for 2023. Three small barrels that were not used last year, may be used in some of our larger gardens. E.g. North Bridge and possibly Schell's Market.

Iron Planters (5 planters)

Planters will include cannas, portulaca, sweet potato vine and drought-resistant begonias. This last item will be a bit of a trial for us... we will see how well it grows. If it does well, we may add more begonias next year.

Schell's Market: Henry will refurbish the top garden. White Cleome, Supertunias and Vinca (official flower of Bath) have been ordered.

Post Office: White Cleome (successful last season) and Supertunias

Museum: Shade Impatiens

North and South Bridge Areas: White Geraniums, Scavola (successful last season), Supertunias

North Bridge: Soil will be refurbished to include materials (clay marbles) and coconut coir for moisture retention. Perennials and rocks will be added, hostas may be included in the shaded area at the eastern section of the garden. A special area will be set aside as the Denys Mailhiot memorial.

South Bridge: Help from Tristan (Flourish Landscaping) perhaps, once a month to keep some of the lilies under control. Planting annuals to complement annuals being planted in the North Bridge area.

Leslie Neasmith, horticulturalist, has provided a list of flowers planted by the Township that have been successful and are considered drought resistant.

BGC and the Township have discussed developing a partnership that would provide greater support for the BGC. More conversations are anticipated.

Program Committee Update – presented by Janice Firth on behalf of Mary Drinkwater

Speakers for 2023

Month	Speaker	Topic
February	Lee Valley	Tool Sharpening. Please bring along your gardening tools
March	Joyce Hostyn, MG	Pruning
April	Carson Arthur – PEC	Topic TBD. This will be an evening meeting
May	KFL&A	Ticks
June	Daniel Chan – Physiotherapist	Body mechanics and gardening

III. New Business

Recording of volunteer Hours – Sandra Lowman

Volunteer hours will soon be able to be submitted using an online form. A brief outline of the process was presented with more details to come.



IV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM

Moved: Doris Power: Seconded: Diane Nolting

V. Program

Presentation - Hydroponics

Dave Leeson and Brian McLeod from Limestone City Hydroponics in Kingston (<https://limestonecityhydroponics.ca/our-shop/>) provided BGC members and visitors with a presentation on how to grow produce/plants indoors hydroponically. They covered many topics relevant to hydroponics including growing media, growing containers, lighting, nutrients and fertilizers, grow systems, and indoor Garden Accessories. In addition, Dave and Brian provided the following websites for hydroponic gardening



Hydroponic Growing - <https://www.thegrowcer.ca/blog/hydroponic-farming>

Kratke Growing - <https://hydroponicway.com/how-to-grow-plants-with-the-kratky-hydroponics>

Deep Water Culture Growin - <https://www.epicgardening.com/deep-water-culture-get-started/>

Microgreen Growin - <https://herbsathome.co/how-to-grow-microgreens-at-home/>

Ebb & Flow System Growin - <https://www.trees.com/gardening-and-landscaping/ebb-and-flow-hydroponics>

Drip Irrigation System Growin - <https://www.trees.com/gardening-and-landscaping/hydroponic-drip-system>

Aquaponics/Recirculating System Growing - <https://foodprint.org/issues/recirculating-farms-hydroponics-aquaponics/>



Attachment 1. Planting Committee Report: January 16, 2023

Planting committee for 2023: Marnie Brough, Dave and Adam Bryant

Despite difficult weather conditions, our barrels, planters, and various gardens looked tremendous. Thank you to our planters, weeders and watering teams. *Stand up to be appreciated!*

The **barrels** will be moved by the Township on Tuesday, October 18th at 8:00 under the direction of Darrell Reynolds. **Flowers from the gardens, planters and from the barrels will be removed Wednesday, October 19th beginning at 9:00. It is hoped that this will be completed within a couple of hours.** Thank you to those who have stepped up to the plate to help.

Saving the tubers

Discussion was held at the last GC meeting about trying to save the canna plant tubers for next year. SunHarvest was contacted to see if these tubers, if saved, might bloom next year. SunHarvest said that the cannas had been started from seed and they might not be robust enough to produce flowers next year. We may try to experiment with a few tubers to see if in fact they will bloom. Susan O'Conner and Janice Firth will be taking the lead on this experiment. As the barrels are emptied, they will try to salvage some tubers. If this is successful, they will be dried and stored at Susan's for the winter.

A huge "thank you" to Dawn and Bob Ford for cleaning out the 5 planters and the 2 Ham House barrels well in advance. We thank them for taking the time and making the effort to salvage some canna tubers which will go to members interested in taking part in our great canna blooming experiment.

J&P's planters – most likely will be moved at the request of Beachside BBQ, the new owners. The planters are the property of the township but we were asked for our opinion on a new location. We looked for the most **level area** that would perhaps be an easier solution when they were moved.

First of all, we felt that Centennial Park already has a number of beautiful gardens, barrels and planters and therefore other locations that were lacking might be more suitable;

- Placing two planters together in the same area might provide a better "WOW" factor than placing one planter in one area a second planter in another;

We also "eyeballed" a few areas along Main Street to see which seemed more level than others.

- In front of the Masonic Lodge;
- In front of the Pizza Store;
- At the corner of Lodge and Main. The bicycle rack and garbage can might need to be moved slightly to accommodate the planters if they were placed side by side;
- The corner of Davy and Main in front of the Insurance business.

There is a bench at the Beachside BBQ site and we are not sure if that bench would be placed with one or two planters or would eventually reside in one of our Parks.

Bridges:

Both the north and south bridges have been put to bed for winter. Marnie has spent hours in that area the last few weeks.

- The **north bridge area** will begin to "**take on a new look**" next year. Some of the **spirea** needed to be removed. That has been accomplished with **Sedum and asters** added. You will see that **rocks** have also been added.
- We have discussed **adding more perennials** that are drought resistant and perhaps at the end, where it is shady...on the east putting in a **few hostas**.
- We are hoping to install the **three extra barrels** that were not used this year into the north bridge area. These **could contain annuals** that would complement the annuals planted in



gardens, barrels, and planters throughout the village.

- **South bridge area:** The lilies have been trimmed and we hope to plant annuals down the lily lane that will complement annuals in our north other parts of town.

Schell's Henry the owner has agreed to replace the top section of the garden in the spring. The wood had rotted and the soil, when watered was dripping into the lower section.

Thank you to **Wendy O'Neill** for taking the lead on this.

Other information

- Water wagon storage – garage behind and east of Schells. TBD
- Thank you for the reflective vests... a gift from one of the residents that moved away.
- New signage will be created during the winter. Metal sign holders have been purchased from Lea Valley.
- Hoping to meet with the Township to see how they can help us further with the village gardens. E.g., help with the watering, cutting the grasses behind the bridges
- Will be contacting SunHarvest to set up a meeting early December to look at possible flowers for our gardens for next year.
- **Thoughts for next year:** weeding support (started by Wendy this year)
- Perhaps extending the weeding to end of August for next year as opposed to mid-August
- Identifying the needs of the flowers that are purchased...deadheading the cannas for example, watering needs etc.
- Refurbishing the soil in the spring and adding moisture retention product that will help in case we again experience drought conditions.

Always looking for more help...

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Chown