



**Bath Gardening Club & Horticultural Society
Executive & Board Member Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2024. from 1:30 to 3:00 pm**

Minutes of Meeting

Attendees	
President	Sylvia Whalen
Program Coordinator	Linda Jameson
Treasurer	Laurie Minorgan,
Co Treasurer	Joanne Pearce
Recording Secretary	Marion Janssens
Publicity Secretary	Jeri Love, by zoom
Board Member, Planting Committee	Marnie Brough
Board Member, Hospitality	Joanna Sperinck
Board Member, Planting Committee	Valerie Behm
Board Member, Webmaster	Sandra Lowman
Board Member, Entertainment	Linda Cohen
Regrets	
Past President, Program Coordinator	Janice Firth
Membership Secretary	Diane Nolting
Market Manager	Jane Ledingham
1. Housekeeping	
Sylvia stated that she wants the meeting kept informal but orderly. Minutes of September 14 meeting were discussed and two changes made. (Mike J. abstained from voting due to a conflict) Sandra will update the minutes.	

2. Business Arising		
2.1	Membership update, Diane Nolting Not available	Action:
2.2	Sunday Market Jane is doing a survey, among market vendors. Nothing to report yet. It was previously discussed that a mature student could be hired, but would need a club member to oversee. Part of the job description should be market promotion and vendor recruitment. Last year's market seemed to work well as a collaborative effort. This may work well going forward. We discussed the possibility of e-transfers for payment of fees, but it would have to be well managed in order to record and keep track of payments. No decision made. Vendor registration form is available on the BGC website. There was some discussion about B. Morin and his threatened legal action. It was decided to take a wait and see attitude.	Action: Need a job description, possibly done by Jane. Keep it fairly simple so not to overwhelm applicants.
2.3	D3 Fall Advisor Meeting. Sylvia thanked everyone who contributed to the preparation and smooth running of the meeting. Everyone who was a part of it, agreed that it was a beautiful venue. One of the issues dealt with at the D3 meeting was a general code of conduct for all members. BGC organizers were given high praise for the successful event.	
2.4	BGC Executive and Board Positions Positions to be filled: Vice President – no candidate for this position Co-Recording Secretary – no candidate for this position Market Manager/coordinator – no candidate for this position	
3. NEW BUSINESS		
3.1	Meeting with township, Nov. 27, 2023. Sylvia was present at this meeting and reported a good relationship of cooperation and support between the township and BGC. She found township staff accessible and responsive.	

Planter placement has been confirmed by relevant parties. The 5 existing planters, along with the 4 new ones will be put into position at the same time. Plaques will be secured to 3 of the iron planters by D. Reynolds. Clean up of sidewalks and streets is a work in progress toward setting up a regular maintenance schedule by township staff. The township is concerned about safety of people working in the gardens on the south side of the bridge at the west end of Bath. A site visit will take place with Darrel R., Pat C. and Marnie B. to determine if the safety measures taken to date are enough to meet Township protocols. Partnerships Township/business owners/BGC/other service clubs Merry Little Main Street, Clean up day, were both very successful events with all parties doing their part to ensure positive outcome and community support. Grants and Funds An opportunity to work together was raised by Kari, to put forward a Memorandum of Understanding to council. This MOU would outline what the BGC would provide within the Town of Bath, and what kind of remuneration and in-kind support would be provided by the township. It was agreed that when this final document was presented to council that BGC would ensure a presence at the meeting. Sylvia thought there would be as much as \$5000 available through this initiative. Sunday Market Vendor removal: It was determined that the BGC is the permit holder and we are entitled to say who is allowed on market property. She encouraged the manager or designate to have a copy of the letter, sent to Bob, with us at the market and to call the police as necessary. Signage: The search for the origins of the market banner is ongoing, by the township. Ideas for signage into Bath were discussed. Possibly a provincial discussion about signs promoting the market. Entrance to market from Academy is not to be used by vendors at the market. The laneway into the park should be clearly marked so vendors know where they can enter the park. Jane L. proposed an extension to the existing sidewalk to allow more vendors, some time in the future.	Market manager should make sure that a letter is made available to market volunteers. Sylvia to contact Lindsay T. or Amber about this. Market manager should make vendors aware of this.
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	Washroom Maintenance: This issue is being explored throughout the township. Memorial Grove and Pollinator Garden Application of memorial plaques was discussed. Since the bench is not an option, it was suggested that a rock may serve. Entrance from school property to the area: Regarding maintenance of entrance, Limestone School Board need to be part of this discussion. Alternate Meeting/Event spaces: Should St. John's Hall be unavailable, Amherstview Community Hall (Nora), Odessa Agricultural Site (Palace), Wilton Community Hall, were suggested as alternatives. Communities in Bloom: Township is not interested in pursuing this. A suggestion was made to contact Gananoque initiative for Garden Trail, as it might be a good fit for BGC. It was brought up that the town may consult BGC on the gardens at Fairfield Gutzeit House.	BGC to look into this. Sylvia agreed to reach out to the board, and involve Darrel and Curtis in any meetings or site visits. No one designated to follow up at this time.
3.2	Planting Update, Marnie Brough Plants are ordered. The total amount is under budget at \$1558, plus cost of delivery. A quote for more planters (1 oval, 3 round) is \$6750. When these are received there will be a total of 6 oval and 8 round. Flourish Landscaping has indicated that they want to contribute to BGC in various ways. One suggestion was to have hanging planters in addition to ground level planters. These could be hung from light poles or hydro poles. We would need to look at availability, cost, permission from Hydro and management. Marnie indicated that Flourish would possibly buy the planters and continue to donate watering of the planters.	
3.3	Plant Sale: There was some discussion about the viability of having a plant sale. Some think that the amount of work involved does not justify the return, or lack of return. Problems that were noted: lack of variety of plants and left over plants end up being given away.	Bring up to members to see if we should continue the plant sale.
3.3	Code of Conduct – Sylvia Whalen Sylvia presented a draft Code of Conduct compiled from different clubs for review. It was proposed that we have a	

	Complaint Resolution Mediator who will address complaints that have not been informally resolved. Linda Cohen stepped up to fill this position. Thank, you Linda! She will use the BGC Complaint Procedure to do this.	
4.0 Other Business		
4.1	Programs: Linda had several ideas for programs in the future. She has arranged for Angela, one of the vendors at the market, to give a talk on growing succulents. Kurt Hennige who evaluates the environmental impact of projects in the community, Loving Spoonful regarding food preparation of in season crops KFLA on tics. Mushrooms was also suggested, although not specific about what aspect. Other suggestions were a talk on soil, house plants, indigenous seed sanctuary, and best plantings for colour schemes. Pep Fraser was brought up as a possibility for his bird pictures. It was also suggested that we ask the membership what they would be interested in learning more about.	
4.2	Market entertainment: Suggestions put forward; old fashioned events such as 3 legged races, face painting balloon animal person?	
4.3	February meeting: Family Day falls on the 3rd Monday of February, our regular monthly meeting. Is there enough business to need a meeting? Could we do an evening meeting? What does the membership want to do?	