



**Bath Gardening Club
Executive Meeting
Loyalist Golf Club**

Minutes of the meeting on March 9, 2026

Present: Sylvia Whalen, Janice Firth, Jeri Love, Joanna Sperinck, Kim Bonner, Marilyn Martin, Val Behm, Diane Nolting

Regrets: Sandra Lowman

Approval of the minutes from January 12 (posted on the website)

Motion Made by Jeri Love

Seconded by Joanna Sperinck

Approved

Updates:

Secretary: Diane Nolting

Executive members are asked to submit their reports prior to / or immediately after BGC meetings to facilitate note taking and speedy production of the minutes

Diane will be absent from March 17 to April 6. Joanna has agreed to monitor incoming emails during that time and reply as needed.

Some concerns about the computer dedicated to BGC activities have been experienced . Diane will take it to Staples for their recommendation.

Treasurer's report: Marilyn Martin

As at February 28, 2026, the bank balance was \$14,374.16. The GIC is \$,5394.48 and we still have \$85 in the cashbox. The book balance was \$14,204.21. One outstanding cheque for \$169.95 cashed in March.

It looks as if winter time is a quiet season for revenues and expenses. We have received \$75 in fees paid by vendors for the 2026 Sunday Market. We have collected \$45 in membership dues.

The Bugtel is emerging from its winter sleep as the expenses were \$394.68. A deposit of \$250 has been spent to fill those containers with flowers this summer. Someone's thoughts are turning to summer as \$145.85 has been spent on the Canada Day Parade.

Membership Secretary:

Our current membership stands at 76. This includes 10 family memberships and 6 new members

The membership list has been updated and shared with the secretary. Joanna will follow up with the list of businesses offering discounts on purchases when the membership card is presented at the cash register.

Sunday Market in Bath

Vendor Update: 12 full time, 10 part time to date

A number of suggestions were made to make our tables more attractive and inviting to visitors:

- Develop a new banner and tablecloth which features the current logo. Check out Garden Ontario resources - Linda
- Sylvia designed and made a new apron for use by volunteers at events and is willing to make 4 or 5 more. She is also willing to make the banner.
- Develop a box of items for use at the SMB table - Kim and Linda
- Pair with the kids activities table on market day - Linda to check dates with Tarra.
- Purchase easel(s) for displaying photographs of club activities, taken at the Bugtel/PG/MG

Linda requested permission to purchase two folding chairs for the SMB table and an extension cord if required this year. The committee agreed.

Sunday Market in Bath Entertainment for 2026

May 10 - Jonathan Jones

May 17 - Mary's Merry Minstrels

May 24 - Darlene Brooks - 613-919-2671

May 31 - Marion Drexler Band

June 7 - Gerald McGrath

June 14 - The Over The Hill Gang

June 21 - Rick Tasson - no email, need a cheque and invoice signed - 613-969-0900

June 28 - Fiddle Earth and Friends

July 5 - Jonathan Jones

July 12 - Marion Drexler Band

July 19 - Steven Tanner

July 26 - The Over the Hill Gang

August 2 - Barry Yuen and His Trio

August 9 - Steven Tanner

August 16 - Gerald McGrath

August 23 - Henderson & Hemmerling

August 30 - Pierre Laframboise

September 6 - Rick Tasson

September 13 - Jonathan Jones

September 20 - Marion Drexler Band

September 27 - Gerald McGrath

October 4 - Steven Tanner

October 11 - Marion Drexler Band

October 18 - Gerald McGrath

October 25 - not yet booked

Planting: Val

We have secured watering services from Flourish Lawn and Garden Care. They will water 3 times/week as in the past. They have agreed to the same terms and payment as last year.

Flowers are ordered from Sun Harvest and a \$250 deposit has been sent to secure the flowers.

Delivery will be May 27th with planting to take place Thursday, May 28. Those who have shown an interest in helping to plant will be contacted in April.

The township has confirmed that we can use their water supply for our plantings.

Marilyn will send out the watering contract with the updated information

Newsletter: Kim

All agreed that the Spring Newsletter is a success. Sylvia asked that readers be made aware that some information was AI generated,

Budget - Purchased items

A trellis to support the 4' tall rose mallow plant in the PG

Mason bee cocoons have been received in the mail

Newsletter

Diane and Kim noted that some members could not access the newsletter, due to its large size. Going forward, members will be directed to our club's website to view it.

Kim proposed a new column called "Wired to the Wild" that explores how technology can help us connect more deeply with the natural world. It was accepted.

Communities in Bloom

Carol's proposed ideas for organizing our club's display table and the activities to be offered there were well-received by the executive. This year's Fritz's Fertilizer will not be ready in time, but there are a few leftover bags from last year that can be offered for sale

We have several volunteers to help staff our table, but will need a few more

Geocache at the PG, MG and Bugtel

A proposal for adding a geocache called “A Very Busy Native Bee” was reviewed and accepted

There were concerns about vandalism; our cache description on the geocaching app will clearly state that the cache is not located in the garden beds or the bug hotel structure and will ask geocachers to kindly stay out of those areas.

The cache will be located away from long grass to reduce the risk of tick exposure

Next steps - Kim and Carol to review the proposal with Darrell Reynolds to seek the Township's approval to proceed with the geocache

Pollinator Storybooks

There are currently 13 books of 20 pages each, with 7 additional ideas that could be developed into new books. The base price of the storybooks is quite high, making them less suitable for fundraising.

We'd like to explore donating copies to the local school and library to promote pollinator and native plant knowledge among children, but this needs to go to the membership for a vote.

We could also use them at events like CIB, the Sunday market, JRPM, etc.

The June Parks and Recreation event is scheduled for Friday May 29th this year. (Seems a little odd as it's not in June or a Saturday). They're inviting us to participate again.

Fritz's Fertilizer: 3 orders - 52 bags have been received

Date May 9 at St John's Hall, rain or shine

Have some volunteers will need more mixers, shakers and pick up helpers

Set up tables and stations on Friday the 8 to correspond with the delivery time. We will need trollies and muscle to help unload the delivery truck.

Waiting for reply from Agromart re any cost increases

Once we know the cost and availability of ingredients we may need to consider a price increase.

Sandra: has created the Spreadsheets for ordering FF and tracking purchases

Publicity to start April 1: Website/FB/HG/Membership notification

Boxes from Schell's are being organized by Wendy O'Neil

Parade Float Baaa..... Bath Gardening Club

Application in to the Loyalist Township has been submitted and acknowledged

Banner redesign Logo and tag line/ background with Yearly add on for parade

New Business:

Promoting Carson Arthur's talk on April 16th : Topic is Food Insecurity Jeri and Janice to work on this

- Verify time change at the Hall
- Message to members
- Contact D3 OHA secretary
- Amherst Island radio
- LCCRA email blast
- School newsletter
- Posters in local businesses and for Communities in Bloom
- St John's Hall signboard
- Provide tea, coffee and baked goods, fruit for attendees

Recruitment progress/ Executive turnover at the end of the 2025 -2026 year.

Joanna (Membership) and Linda (Lead for the Sunday Market in Bath) indicated that they would not continue in 2026/27

VP position is still unfilled

District 3 meeting in Brockville

May 2, Sylvia and Janice will attend

Club Computer servicing

Diane will take to Staples Tech

Earth Day Clean Up in Bath

The date is April 19. Will have a sign up list at the March 26th meeting and send a note to members.

Additional Item:

The Committee approved the expenditure of \$200 to St John's Hall as a goodwill gesture.

A cheque will be presented to a member of the Parish Council at the May meeting with a follow up article in the summer newsletter.

Next Executive Meeting

May 11

1 pm at the Loyalist Golf Club