



Executive Meeting Minutes
May 11 2026
1pm at Loyalist Golf Club

Present: Sylvia Whalen, Jeri Love, Janice Firth, Val Behm, Kim Bonner, Marjory Brunsdon, Sandra Lowman, Diane Nolting

Regrets: Joanna Sperinck

Approval of the Minutes from March 9, 2026

Approved as written by all members present.

Year to date reports:

Co-Treasurer Reports - Marilyn Martin

As of April 30th, 2026, the bank balance was \$21,761.22. The GIC is around \$5400 and there is \$86.60 in the cashbox. Stamps were purchased and extra cash from fertilizer sales was added to the float.

The book balance was \$21,979.83

One stale dated cheque for \$222.61 was cashed in March. The cheque has been cashed twice and two treasurers have advised the recipient that repayment is necessary. To date we have not received the funds as the recipient is out of the country.

\$535 in vendors' fees for the Sunday Market 2026 has been received.

\$45 has been collected in Membership dues.

Loyalist Township honoured us with a grant of \$4,938.30 and the cheque was deposited in April.

\$605.07 was paid to OHA for insurance

A final tally of Fertilizer Sales will follow after the completion of the event.

Allowing for e-transfers as a payment method would require a constitutional change. Members would need to vote on the motion probably at the AGM in October.

Grant/donations Recap - Marjory Brunsdon

We filed our OMAFRA application in December 2025 and on March 23, 2026 we deposited a cheque for \$,1000.00 from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture re the Grassroots Growth Program- Horticultural Societies.

On January 1, we applied for 2 OHA grants, the Pollinator Project worth \$200 and a Tree Grant worth \$300. We have received approval for both grants.

At the end of January we applied to Loyalist Township for \$7,607.03 in support of the Sunday Market in Bath. We recently received \$4,938.30 for music, event days and signage. The remainder is rent for the SMB and the Caroling in the Park event.

At the beginning of April, we reached out to Amrize for a donation of \$1,000 to be used for a replacement tree in the Memorial Garden. Their cheque has been received.

Membership

Current membership is 82 . We have welcomed 11 new members!

Questions for the Executive / brief updates

Fritz's Fertilizer Sale

All pre orders were filled and extra bags were sold at pick up. There are currently 62 fully mixed bags in clear plastic containers in the shed. As well there are 63 bags stored in a green tub awaiting the addition of alfalfa.

Sunday Market Opening

The May 10 opening Sunday was a success with good crowds and good weather from start to finish. There were 32 vendors in total, 18 full-time with new vendors in the mix.

There was no power or garbage pails in the park and Linda has contacted Darrell to resolve this. Washrooms were open.

The new poster was on display and received positive comments.

Stationing the BGC table by the Kids Activities resulted in lots of interest in BGC. Jonathan Jones's music was well received.

Thanks and gratitude to Lynne McDonald and Sunny Wang who are going to share the responsibility of making the BGC's presence known at the Market during this season. There are a few spots available for managing our monthly table. The sign up sheet will be available at the May 21st meeting.

PG, MG and Bugtel

Decorations, obelisks and signs have been reinstalled. The 2nd water barrel is in place. Dave and Adam have confirmed that they will continue with their watering this year.

New signs have been ordered to point the way to the PG, MG and Bugtel. They'll be installed on either side of the chain link fence so people can see them when approaching from either end of the Bath Park trail. The signs are larger, in colour, and include the new Amrize logo. They'll be covered by an Amrize grant.

Also covered by the Amrize grant is the purchase of a serviceberry tree to replace one in the MG that is severely afflicted with fire blight.

The new plant material for the OHA Tree and Pollinator Habitat grants, and Amrize Grant, has been ordered through Tristan.

Newsletter

We reviewed the list of articles for the upcoming June newsletter. Everyone was fine with the proposed content.

District 3 Meeting

The current executive has agreed to continue.

Planting

Flourish Lawn and Garden Care have contracted to provide watering 3 times a week.

Flowers have been ordered from Sun Harvest and a \$250 deposit made

Delivery May 27, planting May 28

The Township has given permission to use their water supply for watering.

New business

Geocache

Our club's geocache is called A Very Busy Bee by the Bath Gardening Club. This past week it went live on the geocaching.com website and app. We'll include trackables every so often that are destined for important pollinator destinations, with the first one being the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve in Mexico. Kim is to provide Sandra and Jeri with info to publicize it.

(During the meeting we had our first geocacher visit it!)

Storybooks

The club will donate a set of 15 books to each of the Bath and Amherst Island Public Schools and the Bath Library. Kim needs to do one last pass of the books - checking for errors - before submitting the order.

Kim and Carol are visiting Karen at the Bath Library on May 12th to discuss the display/activities there on World Bee Day May 20th, which will include Kim's 15 storybooks. Will inquire about the possibility of storybook readings at the library.

Janice suggested we might want to inquire about selling the books at the local book shop. It was agreed that we'd revisit this later in the year. There was also interest from our club members and the public at the recent Communities in Bloom event to consider.

Seed Library

As part of her role as Butterflyway Ranger and Pollinator Partnership Steward, Kim has developed a storybook targeted to families called "So You Want to Plant a Pollinator Garden?" She'd like to make it available for sale, partnering it with a free Seed Library that would be limited at first to club members. Kim showed some sample seed packets that include info about sowing, watering and harvesting. Anyone taking some of the seeds would be asked to harvest and return seeds back to the library at the end of the growing season to replenish the stock, although this would not be strictly enforced. It was mentioned that Sue Nilsson has expressed interest in this in the past, so Kim will approach her about partnering. Next steps would be to develop and present a proposal.

Business

Support for Bath Public School

It was agreed that we would provide support to Bath Public School for their garden beds. Janice will reach out to the grade 7 teacher for more information.

Summer Outing:

Janice suggested a variety of activities and it was agreed that the members be consulted at the May meeting.

A request from Loyalist Township via Counsellor Parks to take on the planting at the Loyalist Gateway was turned down. Lack of available water, poor condition of the current gardens and the time and money costs to service the beds were major factors.

Janice is looking after a plaque honouring Joanne Pearce.

Focus on What's Next for the BGC

Models of Governance: Sylvia will reach out to the Stirling HA regarding their recent leadership model change.

Current vacancies/members to approach

Marilyn has resigned her co-treasurer position. Marjory will assume that role until a new treasurer can be found. The Committee discussed the possibility of hiring someone to look after the banking portion of this role. Diane will reach out to a contact in Bath for advice.

Also need a

President - Sylvia becomes the past president

Vice President

Membership Lead

Sunday Market in Bath Lead

Positions need to be filled by the AGM in October. A letter will be sent to the membership outlining the consequences of a non functioning leadership team prior to the May 21 meeting. The issue will also be discussed at that meeting.

Next Meeting ?