

Wollaston Garden Club Minutes
January 17, 2019

President Emily Lebo called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

She welcomed our members and several guests that were attending.

Emily thanked our Hospitality Hostess, Jackie Ryan and her team of Clare LaMorte, Ellen Donnelly, Kate Wylie, Deborah Ormon, Virginia Duffy, Ann McDonagh, Kathy Ceurvels, Linda Monaco and Anne McCarthy. She also thanked our Floral Arranger, Anne McCarthy, whose design was on the buffet table, and mentioned that it would be included in our opportunity drawing.

The minutes of last month's club meeting were mailed out by Secretary Mary Ryan, who is away. In her absence, Jan Clifford is taking the minutes of the January meeting. Emily thanked Mary and asked if there were any edits to the minutes: there were none.

Emily then asked Linda Monaco to deliver the Treasurer's report. Linda first addressed the Greens Sale, which was the most successful ever, having cleared \$5403.29.

Comparison sheets for the past 9 years were available on the front table.

Linda then read the Treasurer's report for the period ending December 31, 2018. The beginning balance on December 1 was \$11,127.02, income totaled \$8967.87, expenses were \$1363.22, resulting in an ending balance of \$18,931.67. Our 4 year CD earned \$6.43, and now is valued at \$5,648.31. A motion to accept was made by Marnie Dunn and seconded by Jan Clifford.

At the end of Wreaths Across America, several of our members participated in their removal from the Mt. Wollaston Cemetery. Emily thanked them for representing the club so well, and thanked Kathy Ceurvels for spearheading the effort,

Emily pointed out that Marnie Dunn has prepared the Mid-year Membership addendum, reflecting contact information for new members and updated information for several existing members. Copies were emailed to all who use email, and hard copies were available on the front table for anyone who wanted them.

Several members cleaned out the storage closet the prior week, and the church alw gave us additional space. We are very well organized and Emily asked that no one drop off donations for the closet without checking first with the chairs of various committees:

Christmas and Greens Sale—Linda Monaco

Plant Sale—Jan Clifford

Hospitality—Kathy Meade or Anne McCarthy

Books or Magazines—Kay Borek

Presentation, clerical or general items—Emily Lebo

Our Youth Committee had great news to report. Emily thanked Diane Hill for her work in coordinating entries from North Quincy High School in the GCFM Essay Contest. An entry by Jax Cai was the first place winner, and his essay, "Apex Predator" is being referred to the New England Regional Director to represent Massachusetts. Vivian Tran is the third place winner for her Essay "Bottled Water, To Keep or Not to Keep". Dennis Chan will receive a Participant's Certificate.

Anita Fasano spoke about Pennies for Pines, an initiative in which all Garden Clubs can participate. For each \$68 a club collects, an acre of trees is planted to reforest areas that have been blighted. The donation can be in honor of or in memory of a club member. In the past two years, we have received certificates in honor of Linda Della Croce,

Membership Chair and Marie Blanchard, a long time chair of Remembrance. Emily then directed everyone's attention to the information coming out of Mass Hort concerning various educational programs, such as the Home Gardener Series of Workshops which several of our members have attended in the past and found extremely informative. Emails have been forwarded to everyone with details of this and other programs that will take place in the next few months. She highlighted the Boston Flower Show that will take place March 13-17, and had guest speaker Pat Artis, who headed up our club's prize-winning East and North Window entries several years ago. Nancy Costa, chair of this year's Floral Design Committee, then gave an overview of the opportunities for all designers, regardless of experience levels. Nancy is encouraging anyone who is considering participating to attend an Exhibitor's meeting on Saturday, January 26 at Mass Hort in order to help them in deciding whether to participate. Emily repeated that the club is very interested in supporting anyone who participates and will cover the cost of materials, parking, transportation and setting up/taking down of designs. Emily asked Eric Hall, chair of the Conservation Committee to give an update on his activities. Eric stated that he is a member of Quincy's Climate Action Committee and is working with other stakeholders on getting information on composting. Eric has information that he has sent to his committee and will forward it to any other club members interested if they send him a request. Ann Foresman and Kathy Ceurvels have agreed to take the position of Co-Vice Presidents. They will assume the role immediately, so there is a need to replace Kathy as Corresponding Secretary and to help with Civic Beautification. Anyone interested in hearing more about the positions or volunteering should contact Marnie Dunn, nominating committee chair. Emily then introduced the evening's speaker, Rebecca Warner, a home gardener with 30 years' experience working towards a sustainable garden. Rebecca has written a book on the subject, "The Sustainable Enough Garden" and we have purchased a copy for our library. She also has a weekly blog of the same name. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.