**Providence Garden Club
Minutes of November 14, 2018
White Horse Village, Edgmont, PA**

**Attendance** - Barnes, Barr, Butler, Christos, Clark, DeVries, D’Ignazio, D’Iorio, Floyd, Frick, Garnett, Gillespie, Hayden (C), Hayden (N), Jones, Hafertepe, Kucas, Larson, Lee, Leonard, Murray, Noto, O’Donnell, Pirtle, Porter, Russell, Spilman, Staples, Surrick, Thorbahn, Ullman (Mic), Ullman (Min), Wilson, Yost, Ziegenfus

**GARDEN QUOTE**: “A garden is a grand teacher. It teaches patience and careful watchfulness. It teaches industry and thrift; above all it teaches entire trust.” Gertrude Jekyll

Thank you to Sue Thorbahn, Liz Ziegenfus, and Sally Wilson for hosting today’s lovely luncheon. Also, thanks to Sue and Liz for the beautiful seasonal flower arrangements.

**MINUTES** of OCTOBER 10, 2018: Motion to accept was approved unanimously.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**: Jan Frisch gave an overview of our finances. Transactions since her last report included expenses for the catered *En Blanc* party and attendance by Anne Devries at the 2018 Shirley Meneice Horticultural Conference held at Longwood Gardens. Our overall assets total approximately $88,000.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Admissions:** Wendie Russell welcomed Carolyn Hayden as a provisional member with our provisional brochure, a PGC annual program and binder, an invitation for the Fertilizer Fund drive, and a Club apron.

**Directory Additions:** Please add the following contact information for our two new provisional members:

**Michelle Ullman** (Mrs. David U., III)

892 Martin Avenue,

Bryn Mawr PA 19010

610-896-5062 Home;

610-247-9638 Cell

mullman425@gmail.com

**Carolyn Hayden** (Mrs. Robert G., Jr.)

 60 Forest Lane

 Swarthmore, PA 19081

 610-328-2954 Home

 610-635-9902 Cell

 haydencm@verizon.net

**Elwyn Workshop:** Holly Porter and Beth Noto updated us on the November 28th event. For those who can stay after today’s event, we will be making ribbon bows to use on the swags.

**Leiper House Christmas Decorating:** We have been asked to decorate the Middle Bedroom (last done by PGC 2011). Liz Garnet, Katie D’Iorio, Beth Noto, and Kelly Hafertepe volunteered. Decorating can be done any day in the first week of December. The Leiper Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, December 16, from 1-5 pm.

**Stroud Water Research Center**: One of PGC contribution recipients has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a finalist for its Headwaters Award, an accolade that celebrates innovative programs which support the improvement of water quality and quantity through forestry activities. The Stroud Center partners with the Arbor Day Foundation through its Our Nation’s Forests replanting program resulting in thousands of trees being planted on the banks of agricultural lands in Berk’s, Chester, and Lancaster counties. The goal is to restore stream health and remove an “impairment” status assigned to these waters by the EPA.

**National Affairs and Legislation:** – Lin Floyd reported on the February 2019 Conference.

1. Registration for NAL Conference (Feb 24-27, 2017) will be done in two stages: 1) a delegate from each club, 2) then additional delegates to fill the remaining openings. We are still seeking a delegate.
2. GCA is asking members to “make this pledge” for sustainable gardening on line via the Conservation Committee page <https://www.gcamerica.org/members/committees-conservation>

**GCA Floral Design** – GCA has added Floral Design as a new committee at the national level to encourage members to develop skills in this area. Lauren O’Donnell and Nancy D’Ignazio passed on the following for working with floral foam. Floral Foam contains toxic components, avoid inhaling, wash hands thoroughly, don’t burn. Consider alternatives, chicken wire, water proof tape, and rocks.

When planning an arrangement keep harmony and unity in mind to mke elements work well together for cohesiveness. Consider combining pleasing colors, balance and scale in components.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Visiting Gardens**: Chris Larson presented the 2018 PGC Member Garden Award to Holly Porter. Congratulations!

**Magnolia Tribute Garden** – Thank you to Susie, Minnie, Lauren, and Beth for volunteering to fill PGC’s assigned workday PGC. Lauren and Minnie spent the morning at the Hand to Shoulder Institute where Lauren was able to get Minnie seen after her encounter with a brick sidewalk. When volunteering to work for PGC, know you are in good hands with your garden friends.

**Fertilizer Fund** – Wendie reported on the effect of Fertilizer Funds projects, including Rehabilitate War Memorial between 49th and 50th, where new plants along Baltimore Ave., a new playground, concerts, chess boards, and a Little Library are having a positive effect on the area.

Wendie read a note from the head of the Fertilizer Fund explaining the purpose and structure of the FF. The Fund is unique in addressing small grant needs up to a couple thousand dollars. It is known for its excellent oversight of the projects it funds.

**PCGCA Joint Meeting** – Minnie thanked Susie Leonard and Sallie Anderson for proofing the draft of invitations. Wendie Russell, Lin Floyd, Katie D’Orio, Chris Larson, and Sallie Anderson were thanked for stuffing 725 invitations. Minnie thanked Susie for handling all registrations and preparing name tags and Susie, Lin, Jeanne Lee, and Sue Staples, for welcoming guests last Wednesday.

 Susie Leonard noted the purpose of the joint meeting is to gather members of the 10 clubs annually. PGC had 12 members attending. The program this year was BloomAgainBrooklyn, a non-profit that repurposes floral bouquets to distribute to a variety of non-profit residential programs. Speakers included the founder, Caroline Anderson, and staff from Cobblestone Health Care and NYC Cares.

 Lin Floyd made an initial request for volunteers for the 2019 PCGCA mtg for which PGC is the organizer.

**Leiper House:** – in light of the dismal forecast for 11/15, Wendie will reschedule a workday before the Holiday Open House.

**HKF:** Stephanie Kropac and Mary Murray reported that HKF seems to have outsourced landscaping. They propose devoting our budget towards new plantings in conjunction with our 2019 Plant Sale.

**RECORK:** -

1. Winner for October was Sallie Anderson with 40.
2. PGC has a posting about our Recork project on the public page of the GCA website. (Check out the website).
3. Recork reports that 90 million cork have been recycled. Thank you from Minnie to PGC members. She is working on packaging box 5 to send.

**Heritage Moment** – Minnie noted that an article in the GCA Bulletin mentioned Jane Ward, a former President of GCA and of PGC. Jane formed group of GCA members that meets annually at McKee Botanical Garden in Vero Beach Florida.

**Horticulture** – Minnie distributed a handout on “Philadelphia: America’s Garden Capital”.

**2019 Plant Sale:** Lauren O’Donnell reported on getting committee chairs and committees set for the upcoming Plant Sale.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN** at 10:56 AM.

**Conservation Tip:** Use leftover tea and coffee grounds to acidify the soil of acid loving plants such as azaleas, rhododendrons, camelias, gardenias, and even blueberries. Alight sprinkling of ¼ inch applied once a month will keep the soil on the acidic side.

Respectfully submitted,

Lin Axamethy Floyd, Interim Recording Secretary