**The Providence Garden Club of Pennsylvania**

**April 14, 2024, General Meeting**

**White Horse Village, Newtown Square, Pennsylvania**

Holly Porter, President, called the meeting to order at 10:17 am.

**PRESENT:** Anderson, Barr, Brady, Butler, Conroy, DeSilva, DeVries, D’Ignazio, D’Iorio, Floyd, Folk, Frisch, Funk, C. Hayden, N. Hayden, Krogh, Kucas, Larson, Lee, Leonard, Noto, Picher, Porter, Standish, Minnie Ullman, Wheeler, Ziegenfus.

Special thanks were extended to hostesses Jan Frisch, Liz Ziegenfus and Renee Kucas.

**SECRETARY:**  Minutes from the PGC meeting on March 13, 2024 were approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND LETTERS**

Sue Staples sent a message sharing that she has been invited to join a garden club in NC, and that she hopes to be at the PGC plant sale again this year.

**PLANT SALE**

* Carolyn Folk, potting/plant chair for sale, shared that this will be PGC’s 74th annual plant sale. Potting up starts on Monday at 9 am at Minnie’s home. Please see page 7 of the program book for additional details. The pre-sale will take place on 4/26 from 9 am until noon.
* Bring any plants from the fall potting up that members have been “babysitting” over the winter.
* General logistics: Dress for the weather; bring apron, tools (with name on item), and clean green or black pots; donations should be labelled with both the member’s name and plant name(s); save/bring cardboard boxes and plant trays; and arrive 30 min. before sale start times on Friday and Saturday. Anne D., co-chair, will be in charge of potting up during the first week, and Carolyn F. will oversee the second week.
* New this year: Zac’s hamburgers will be there on Fri night from 5-8 pm; PGC will be able to accept credit cards this year.
* Jane S. circulated sign-up for snacks at Minnie’s
* Requested donations include: unique perennials; hellebores; astilbe; things that are currently flowering. Carolyn F. will also circulate a list of plants that are wanted in only limited quantities.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Beth Noto highlighted the income and expenses for the month of March. Her detailed report can be found on the PGC Website. The club’s total financial resources are currently $125,021.00.

Dues for the coming year have started to come in. Beth also highlighted that credit cards can be used at this year’s plant sale; although there are some costs incurred, we expect them to be offset by increased sales.

**MEMBERSHIP**

* Minnie Ullman reminded members that cork recycling is no longer being done, but that Total Wine has a container where they can be donated. Also, any plastic corks marked as recyclable can be put into general recycling. The PGC collection of corks began in Sept. of 2017, and as of last month a total of 119,600 corks were recycled by members. A generous round of applause was made in recognition of Minnie’s efforts.
* In terms of the annual member directory, the club needs to tighten up which Members are in which categories. Some current assignments are impacting the assignment of hostesses for monthly lunches. Please notify Minnie, ***in writing or by e-mail***, by June 15th of any changes – address, phone, category, etc…
* Minnie emphasized the importance of every member reviewing the club bylaws for a description of each membership category to be sure that she is affiliated with appropriate category.
* Helen Picher was welcomed into membership of the PGC.
* Minnie Ullman asked the club to welcome guests Linda Reed, Barbara Lorenzi, and Anne Holyer today. Gwen Kannapel informed Minnie that she has decided to look for a different volunteer opportunity and is not pursuing club membership at this time.

**HORTICULTURE**

Lin Floyd shared that Media’s Environmental Advisory Committee distributed door tags to all Media residents recently educating them on the negative impact of using mosquito spraying services. She also noted that while Governor Josh Shapiro had signed a proclamation denoting April as Native Plant Month last year, he declined to sign the proclamation again this year. Efforts to change his stance for 2024 will continue as PA is one of only two States to have not recommitted to this cause this year.

Sallie Anderson sharing alarming information regarding the rising prevalence of Asian jumping worms. This new pest is highly destructive, has no natural predators or deterrents, spreads extremely quickly, and is particularly harmful to forests. She encouraged members to be aware of possible infestations and explained how to dispose of any jumping worms that might be found.

**CONSERVATION/NAL**

Carolyn Hayden provided an overview of highlights from the annual NAL conference from 3/17 – 3/20 in DC. Notable themes for this year’s conference were climate change and climate litigation. Sessions of particular interest were the Sunday evening talk on regenerative grazing methods and advantages, a discussion by the founder of the Climate Litigation Lab on the recent unearthing of scientific documents authored by major oil companies decades ago that very precisely predicted the actual climate change impacts the industry has caused, a presentation on food waste mitigation efforts, and a concerning report that the recent updates to plant “zones” in the US are markedly out of date because they are based on the most recent 30 years of climate statistics.

**CLUB HISTORY/ARCHIVES**

JoDean DeSilva made a request for any information on how the PGC relationship with Leiper house started.

**CLUB FLOWER SHOW**

Anne DeVries thanked all of the members who participated in our club’s flower show today as well as the judges who gave of their time and expertise. She announced the winners of the three categories, and encouraged members to participate in future flower shows as well.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Holly Porter reported on the following:

* The next Magnolia Tribute Garden work day is scheduled for 5/22. Holly will be attending and is willing to drive other interested members. A sign-up sheet was circulated.
* PCGCA has several open positions they are trying to fill. Please review the PCGCA site to see which committees need volunteers and whether any spark an interest. On the site, go to the “National, Zone and Club Leadership” tab, select “nominating”, then under the searching for GCA Leaders click on “put your name in the ring”. This brings you to a Jot Form where you can select your areas of interest. Within the jot form there is a link to a list and description of the committees. Take a look – you may find that something in there is of interest to you within the larger platform.

**OTHER**:

Linda Butler informed members of an effort to collect and redistribute “eclipse glasses” to school children in South America for the next solar eclipse. Donations can be sent to the address below or can be donated at the Helen Kate Furness library:

Eclipse Glasses USA, LLC

PO Box 50571

Provo, Utah 84605

**OLD BUSINESS:**

(None)

Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 am.

**Meeting Program:**

* Today’s speaker was unable to join the meeting due to an illness, so there was no program.
* A delicious lunch, served by White Horse Village, was enjoyed by members of PGC as well as today’s guests.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Hayden