

JANUARY 8, 2019 GENERAL MEETING

WHITE ROCK & DISTRICT GARDEN CLUB

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by President, Patti Wolczuk. She wished us a Happy New Year, and welcomed all which included three new members and two guests.

We were invited to start our meeting by enjoying our annual pot luck luncheon. There were an ample amount of delicious items which we appreciated while we visited with each other. After we finished our lunch, Mary, Eileen, Yvonne and Patti related humorous anecdotes about Christmas gifts and memories from the Holiday Season.

The President introduced the other members of the Executive for 2019: they are: Collene Ford, Vice President; Linda Martin, Secretary; Lorna Bury, Treasurer.

The President thanked the 2018 Executive, Directors and Committee members for their service to our club. They were individually acknowledged for their contribution and given a gift of a plant. Appreciation was expressed.

The formal business meeting began at 1:55 pm. Patti inquired about approval of last month's minutes. They were approved as written by Louise and seconded by Collene.

President's Report: Patti stated that she has contacted other local garden clubs. They expressed an interest in sharing information with us and possibly having some shared activities. These will be explored in the future.

Treasurer's Report: Lorna Bury, Treasurer, reviewed the budget entries for last month and brought us up to date. The Treasurer's report was accepted as read.

Patti asked if the Vice President and Past President if they had anything to report. Both stated they did not.

Membership Director, Tim Roark, spoke about the current count of 55 paid up members, with additional members expected to pay their dues later this afternoon. The annual fees are due today.

Program Director, Margrit Elmiger-Isert, told us of three speakers who have been lined up for this spring. In February we will learn about grass maintenance from a staff of West Coast Gardens. During our meeting in March, the guest speaker will be from Birds Unlimited. And at our meeting in May, the guest speaker, Ron Hebden, will teach us about photography of flowers and plants. At today's meeting, Margrit spoke with various members about when they would like to have our annual garden tour. She also inquired as to whom might be willing to open up their garden for our tour.

Plants Plus: Director, Mary Openshaw, spoke about a new idea she has for our annual Plant and Bake Sale. She suggested that we could consider making up gift baskets for sale; and to do this, we were encouraged to donate baskets, cellophane, ribbons, and items for the baskets' content.

Mary demonstrated a two-sided, plastic sign holder that has a sturdy base. She illustrated how we might be able to use the holder during our annual Plant and Bake Sale. Purchase was recommended. We can buy the sign holders in bulk and share the cost with the North Surrey Garden Club.

Mary stated that last year the Plant Table sales have brought in over \$700.00

Parlour Show Director, Donna Lawson, read the thank you note from the Come Share Society. It expressed appreciation for our gifting of Christmas seasonal arrangements. Donna gave the thank you note to Mary Joe for our archives.

Donna stated that she plans on having the Show Schedule in our Club's March newsletter. Donna stated that Floral Circle plans on bringing floral arrangements to our February 14th meeting.

Plant of the Month: This month the plant was a Stromanthe Sanguinea, common name – Stromanthe Tricolor. It was presented by Iris Peacosh. It is in the so-called prayer plant family. The plant is originally from the rainforests of Brazil. It has multi-coloured leaves, does not like to be in an environment where the temperature goes below 10 C., likes light that is non-direct, and benefits from half strength fertilizer to be given from April through September. This plant was won by Mary Openshaw.

Social Media: President Patti explained that a working group is being established to address issues related to our Club having a Website presence. The group will have its first meeting this afternoon, and it is hoped that its recommendations can be presented to the Club at the February meeting. Patti invited all members of the Club to be on this group and/or to communicate with herself or Linda Martin regarding concerns to be addressed or investigated. She would like to call a vote next month to determine if the Members would like to proceed with having a Website. It will be a secret ballot. There will be communication prior to February about proxy votes (which will be allowed). Our Vice President, Collene, will take the lead in this proxy process.

Winnings: The 50/50 Draw of \$57.00 was won by Diane Kew. Ken and Mavis won potholders, and hyacinths were won by June, Ozana, Iris, and Tim.

It was recommended that the raffle tickets be only in one colour.

Miscellaneous: Melanie said that our cash donation to the local food bank had been made and was appreciated. She said that the money is a better gift rather than a food item. The organization can use the funds to purchase item, as needed. There is often an over-supply of donated food during the holiday season.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Linda Martin, Club Secretary