



**White Rock and District Garden Club  
Dec. 12, 2023  
Annual General Meeting  
Cranley Hall  
Minutes**

**President Darlene Chamberlain** opened the meeting at 2:05 pm. Fran Deptuck introduced guests.

**Minutes:** Eileen Davidson moved that the minutes of Nov. 14, 2023 be accepted as circulated. Jackie seconded.

**President's Report:** Darlene Chamberlain commented on the great year we've had enjoying tours, speakers and parlour and mall shows. It's amazing how much time and effort goes into running our club. We meet for 3 hours once a month for 10 months. In the background we have our Executive meetings and committees spending countless hours arranging meetings and activities. We have historians, plant sales, trophy management, media management, programs and shows. We have opportunities to learn floral design. We enjoy fun and friendship. We share what we know and show what we grow.

We have successfully filled all our Executive positions and Committee positions. We go forward to the 77<sup>th</sup> year of our club. We celebrated our 75<sup>th</sup> year in 2022. We look forward to a great year in 2024 with a new President and Vice President.

**Election of 2024 Executive:** Secretary Pat Catton conducted the election. She read out the names of the members nominated for each position for 2024 as follows:

President Elizabeth Young  
Vice President Gayle Horie  
Treasurer Eileen MacBean  
Secretary Pat Catton  
Membership Director Fran Deptuck  
Program Director Eleanor Enns  
Plant Sale Director Terry Haight  
Show Director Donna Lawson  
Trophies and Properties Director Bev Polywkan  
Newsletter Director Melanie Rantucci  
Social Media and Website Director Bev Sass

Front Porch Director Joyce O'Brien

Patti Wolczuk moved that the request for additional nominations be made for all positions at one time. Eileen Davidson seconded. Motion was carried. Pat asked for additional nominations for any position three times and there were no further nominations. Vote to accept the slate as shown was passed.

**Treasurer: Eileen Mac Bean** reported on the current balance of \$3717.66.. A GIC of \$2659.94 will be added to the account in January to ensure there are enough funds for spring activities. Eileen will be on holidays for the next several weeks and Linda Bradley will be filling in.

**Membership:** Fran Deptuck reported that there are currently 81 members with 4 life members. She reminded members that the \$25. annual fee for 2024 will be collected at the January meeting.

**Programs Report: Eleanor Enns** reported on 2023 programs. See attached report.

**Plant Sale: Terry Haight** reported on the Plant Sale for 2023. See attached report.

**Show Director: Donna Lawson** reported on 2023. See attached report.

**Newsletter: Melanie Rantucci** reported on newsletter activities for 2023. See attached report.

**Social Media: Melanie Rantucci** reported for Bev Sass on 2023 activities and thanked the committee for all their work.

**Front Porch: Joyce O'Brien** commented on the \$888.80 funds raised by the Front Porch in 2023. See attached report.

**Trophies: Bev Polywkan** presented trophies as follows:

Pirie Memorial Trophy to Terry Haight for highest aggregate points during the year for horticultural exhibits.

Jean Wilde Memorial Plaque to Eileen Davidson for highest aggregate points during the year for Floral Art advanced.

Kiwanis Club Plaque to Iris Peacosh for best photograph.

**Honorary Life Membership** presented to Claire Muirhead by Donna Lawson for outstanding long time member.

**Food Bank Donation:** Darlene recommended that the club donate \$100.00 to the local Food Bank. Passed unanimously.

Eileen MacBean read a thank you card from Cranley Place Residents for the center pieces.

**50/50 draw** of \$38.50 was won by Johanna Mramor

**Plant of the Month: Bev Polywkan** A poinsettia was won by Jackie D.

Winners of donated arrangements were Patti Wolczuk, Elizabeth Young, Lil Penner and Darlene Chamberlain

Best sweater was won by Pat Yorke and best hat by Frances O'Grady. The poinsettia was won by Claire Muirhead.

Christmas party followed the meeting.

**Next Meeting: Jan. 9, 2024**

**Attachments:**

**2023 Membership Report:**

I am pleased to report that we finished the year with 81 members including 4 Life Members – Donna Lawson, Mary Openshaw, Iris Peacosh and Mavis Taylor.  
Respectfully Submitted Fran Deptuck Membership Director

**White Rock Garden Club**

**2023 Report From Co-Directors of Programs:**

In 2023, there were speakers for Sun Yat Sen Garden, Pruning, and a wonderful variety of topics that were covered by knowledgeable members of our own garden club. They covered subjects like how to make a hanging basket, how to make a bouquet, how to access and understand our garden club's website, how to keep plants over the winter and many other related gardening topics.

The club went on a bus tour to the Sun Yat Sen Garden in June of this year. We also had tours of Petals and Butterflies in May, Cedar Rim Nursery in October and Morgan Creek Tropicals in November. In July we had a wonderful tour of members' gardens which was enjoyed by everyone.

We would like to thank everyone in the club for their participation and co-operation regarding the smooth operation of the programs for the club for 2023.

Elizabeth Young

Eleanor Enns

### **Plant Sale Report:**

This year's Plant Sale was our most successful yet due to the amazing volunteers that helped make it the success it was. We made a total of \$4770. before expenses.

The hanging baskets grossed \$800.

The bake table \$725.

The raffle earned \$315.25

The sale from plants \$2300.

Flower Market \$220.

The café \$23.

Feedback from the survey we sent out was very helpful and we will be making a few changes next year. Once again thank you to everyone who participated in the plant sale. Your hard work was very much appreciated. A special thank you to the Plant Sale committee Linda Bradley, Eileen Davidson, Joyce O'Brien, Eleanor Enns and Elizabeth Young. What great group to work with!. We are looking forward to next year's sale and will begin planning in January.

Terry Haight

### **Show Chairman Report for 2023:**

We have had 3 Parlour Shows this year in April, June, and September and the Floral Circle Spring Display in April and Fall Show in Sept. both at Semiahmoo Mall. We averaged 53 entries in each show. Throughout the year 17 trophies and 15 rosettes were presented to winners.

During the year, the hard work of Johanna for keeping track of our points and Bev for handling the trophies for all shows is greatly appreciated.

The beginners classes in Floral Art will resume in February and hopefully some of our new members will be interested in joining.

Merry Christmas to all and all good wishes for our club for 2024.

Donna Lawson

### **White Rock and District Garden Club 2023 Secretary Report:**

Minutes for ten General Meetings and eleven Executive Meetings were completed in 2023 and circulated to Club members and Executive members. The minute Book is up to date with copies of all minutes. Digital minutes were stored with the historian.

Pat Catton

### **Website Report:**

**Thank you** to the website committee, **Margrit Elmiger-Isert, Marilyn Murphy, Melanie Rantucci, Eileen Davidson and Ozana Seselja** for a job well done in 2023. The website and social media applications are up-to-date and look fabulous because we have this group of amazing dedicated people who donate so

much time to the club. Special thank you to Eileen Davidson for doing such a spectacular job of keeping the clubs Website calendar up to date.

- ❖ Over the year committee members captured beautiful pictures of our Floral Shows entries, club member's gardens during open yards this summer and from our many tours. These photos were posted to the clubs social media and website Gallery pages. We hope you enjoyed seeing them.
- ❖ The club now have more than 1400 beautiful photos on the Gallery page of the website. Many of these photos were also posted to Facebook and Instagram – an awesome accomplishment!! 99% of these photos are from club members – so keep up the good work as we love to see your photos.
- ❖ Our group provides website updates to 2iiS Marketiing (our hosting company) the first week of each month. The relationship with 2iiS Marketiing has been going extremely well.
- ❖ The Zoom membership used during the pandemic for executive meetings has been cancelled. The free membership is still available for an emergency meeting should we get lots of snow.
- ❖ Earlier this month the website committee Including Mary Openshaw met and participated in a workshop where we created Christmas wreaths, and arrangements. Two of the arrangements will be raffle prizes today.
- ❖ During our first meeting in January the website committee will be here to assist with membership renewals. You can either complete the membership renewal form from our website prior to the meeting or sit with one of our committee member for a couple of minutes and they will complete the form with your assistance. Then all you need to do is pay by cash or cheque to Fran Deptuck. Nice and easy!
- ❖ 2023 was a very successful year and it has been a pleasure working with President, Darlene Chamberlain and the current executive team over the past year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.  
Thank you  
Bev Sass - Website Director



### **Newsletter Director Report 2023:**

This year I have finally mastered the technical aspects of producing the newsletter, with Bev Sass's help. She is still acting as an editor and I really appreciate her checking the format and proof reading before I send it out.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage members to contribute whenever and wherever they would like to the newsletter. I will send an email to members as I am preparing the newsletter to ask if they have anything they would like to submit or see addressed in the newsletter. Perhaps something you have learned about plants and gardening, a book or website you have found helpful, a joke or cartoon relating to gardening, and so on.

This is your newsletter and I am here to make it what you want. I look forward to seeing what we can produce together.

Submitted by Melanie Rantucci, December 2023

### **Publicity Report 2023:**

This years publicity has been announcements of our Club's meeting date and times. Peace Arch News, Datebook Weekly, and Coffee News, What's happening column weekly. Our Plant Sale in May coverage expanded to North by North West on CBC with Margaret Gallagher. BC Garden Club Newsletter puts events and announcements 4 times a year.

Respectfully submitted Frances O'Grady

### **Front Porch Report**

2023 was a very successful fundraising year for our "table". The total raised for the 12 months spanning Dec. 2022 up to and including Nov. 2023 totalled \$888.80. This total was achieved because of the kind donations from our club members. A lady read our website, made contact and passed on her gardening stuff as she was giving up her home. This was a windfall just before our May sale.

The previous name of our table "garden stuff" didn't seem a realistic reflection of our eclectic stuff which didn't feature garden items. The Front Porch was found in a

Canadian Gardening magazine and the wide range of topics seemed appropriate to the wide range of items donated and purchased at WRDGC.

Joyce O'Brien