

Minutes of the Town and Country Garden Club of Libertyville for 12/11/19

Location: Home of Joyce Geib in Libertyville

Hostess: Joyce Geib, Co-hostesses: Rise Barkoff, Nancy Kreuser,
Marlene Elkins,
Andrea Waterhouse and Dianne Elmquist

The meeting began at 11:15 am. Present were 22 active members and 6 associates. No guests were present.

President's report:

Julie thanked the hostess and Co-hostesses and a big thank you to all who worked on our fundraisers this year. The June garden walk and the November Mike MacDonald Event we're both very successful. Overall our club had a very good year and heartfelt thanks we're extended to the many club members who so generously gave of their time and talents. The mood was celebratory, and everyone was anticipating the fun surprises in store for us after the meeting. Julie tried to move things on as quickly as possible.

First vice president report: 28 active members and nine associates. Sharon Akers has resigned as an associate member. Members were to correct any inaccurate contact information on the sheet that was passed around and to please add their birthday month and day after their name.

Program report: Paula Lubenow; November Fundraising Event Chairperson

-Overall...the Mike MacDonald Event was a very successful one for everyone. One of the highest income generating fundraisers our club has ever done Many people told me and our members how much fun they had, how inspired they were by Mike MacDonald, how good the food was and how well run the event was. We sold 107 tickets, a total of 27 books (including 17 on the day of the event) , and our 10 vendors also reported doing very well with their sales. 28 local businesses including our 10 vendors supported our event with raffle basket contributions. Our themed Raffle baskets were well received.

We generated \$8,824 in income, with expenses of \$4,048 and our Net Profit was \$4,776.

Ticket Sales:

We sold 107 tickets.

Our objective was to make this a community outreach event and 71% of attendees at the event came from outside our club. For comparison, about half came from outside the club for 2019 Garden Walk and for the 2012 fundraiser most of the attendees were garden club members and their guests.

On-Line Ticket Sales:

Our on line profile as a club (via facebook and our web site) is growing, and we generated greater on line sales by doing extensive promotion on Facebook with assistance from other local facebook groups, other gardening clubs and environmental clubs (ElawaFarm, Audubon society and Wild Ones to name a few).

--38% of total sales were made on line (via credit card) which was almost double the percent of on-line sales we had for the 2019 Garden Walk where on line sales represented 21% of total sales (66).

President Julie Eberspacher thanked Paula Lubenow for the extensive work she did on this event. She also thanked Ann Baker, Jennifer Rielly, Peg Samuelson Sally Steele and the entire club for their help in making this a successful event.

Civic report: Laura reports that a \$200 donation was sent to Winchester House to be used to brighten the holidays for the residents there.

Horticulture report: Donna reported a new book called 'Wild about Weeds; Garden design with rebel plants' by Jack Wallington. The book encourages gardeners to take another look at weeds. It's available at the Libertyville library and online.

Mary Gay reported on the scholarships that were given to two students from the CLC horticulture program. There were four applications from great candidates. Mary Gay read the two applicants' personal statements which were very well written. The \$500 scholarship given to each student will cover the cost of one semester.

Marlene reports that our club will no longer be collecting stamps for the Lincoln Land Association of birds as Vern is quitting.

Treasurer report: Sally Steele reports that we have \$5030.57 in the money market account. With \$14,132.41 in the checking account balance that totals \$19,162.98.

Old business: Joyce Geib reports that 'the Bell' belongs to Lake County, and at present remains on county property. Joyce attended a board meeting where it was proposed that the bell be moved to a location in front of the Libertyville Civic Center. If that is approved our Club may be interested in beautifying and maintaining the site with plantings, and possibly finding an Eagle Scout who would like to take on 'the Bell' as a service project.

New business: Anne Stranberg reports that \$500 was given to the Washington school in Mundelein to purchase a 3 tier grow light that was previously approved. The school is also interested in an after school garden club as part of their STEM program. This is a potential project in very preliminary stages. It was initially presented by Anne at the September meeting. It may consist of a time commitment of one hour per week for nine weeks. Club members who are interested, have questions or ideas for the project may call or or email Anne.

Ann Baker introduced a new gardening project at the Greenhouse garden at Lovell Federal Health care Center which is at the VA in North Chicago, located at 137 and

Green Bay Rd. There are four greenhouse residences on site with 10 to 12 veterans per building. The goal is to create and design an outdoor garden in a warm and sunny area in front of each residence. Our club would assemble a team of volunteers to take on one of these gardens. This project was previously discussed at the September meeting. Jennifer Reilly made the motion to move forward with the VA project and it was seconded by Nancy Bloomer. The vote in favor was unanimous.

Reminder that membership dues are to be paid by the March 1 meeting . Motion to adjourn was made by Marlene Elkins and seconded by Nancy Kreuser.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Cochran