Town and country garden club minutes from August 5, 2020

Location: Adler Park Pavillion, outside, practicing social distancing and wearing masks during Corona virus pandemic

Members in attendance: 20 active and

                                           2 associates

The meeting was chaired and brought to order by President Julie Eberspacher

at 9:05 am.

Remarks from our President:

      We tried to meet in July but our meeting got rained out. It is so wonderful to see everyone’s smiling eyes today!

       We haven’t met since March and we’d like to say happy birthday to everyone with a birthday in spring and summer.

     The acts of kindness idea was very much appreciated by the members as a way to stay in touch during this pandemic.

       Another idea that has worked well is the pop up garden walks. Several members of the club have opened their own gardens for a short time for other club members to come and enjoy. There is still time for anyone else who would like to share their garden.

       Another new idea that has been done by the Lake Geneva garden club is an online flower show. We’d like to try this with our club. Members are encouraged to make a flower arrangement or a garden container using plants and flowers from their own gardens, and then take a picture. Please send the picture by text, email or regular mail to Ann Baker and she will post it on our website. Look for the virtual flower show. There are already a couple beautiful postings.

      And lastly a touching poem found in a 1925 Raggedy Ann book about starting a garden.

Let us start a garden, you and I.

Let us turn the soil of acquaintanceship

And in this fertile ground plant kindly thoughts;

Let us pull all weeds of envy and selfishness

And destroy them!

Let us water our garden with the dew of sympathy.

Let us keep our growing plants in the sunshine of love

And happiness is ours; our garden is filled

With the beautiful flowers of friendship.

Membership report: 26 active members

                                    7 associates

Programs report: as you know we tried to meet in July but the meeting was rained out. We have not really met since March when the lockdown began.

We may be able to flip some of the programs we had scheduled to next year.

Peg is now looking for an outdoor site for our September meeting which includes a dahlia show. We will let you know if and when that will happen.

Civic report: Our Civic plantings are being maintained with watering as usual. Winchester house has moved. And due to the coronavirus our new project at the veterans garden in North Chicago was not doable.

Treasury report: $5,032.26 money market. $11,679.35 in checking.

Even though the garden walk was not held this year due to the coronavirus we still have a healthy balance, thanks in part to the November fundraising event.

Scholarships have been kept in the budget.

Conservation report: Midwest veterans closet at 2323 Waukegan Road is accepting donations for active duty personnel and their families and veterans only. Very grassroots, run by Mary Carmody, founder and Executive Director. All items are free to them and they serve about 500 per month average. Please see their website for complete information. [http://www.midwestveteranscloset.org](http://www.midwestveteranscloset.org/)

Items to donate:  clothing, shoes ,boots ,linens, household goods and furniture.

      Another place to donate is the Sparrow’s Nest, Patriots Plaza on Route 60 just west of 45. Thrift store to help women and children in need of housing and other support.

     Libertyville Township Food Pantry, 359 Merrill Court, Libertyville is in need of paper grocery bags you may have collected during Covid-19. Leave at the double doors.

     Other ideas discussed: instead of pouring fat down the drain, mix it with rolled oats and put it out to feed the birds.

    Instead of plastic wrap use cabbage leaves to cover and wrap items in the fridge.

    And lastly, evidently there have been reports of people receiving mysterious seeds in the mail . If you receive any please contact agr.seeds@illinois.gov

Horticulture report: Donna reported on a Kudoes Klub for kids, that got them more interested in gardening thru games like scavenger hunts etc.

New business: Nominating committee of Mary Gay Kay, chairman, Rise Barkhoff, and Laura LeVert have come up with our new officers for 2021.

President – Ann Baker

Vice president - Sally Steele

Treasurer - Rise Barkhoff

Sally Steele, Lake county election judge , gave a short presentation on voting in Illinois this November, either by mail in ballot or in person.

Garden Walk co-chairs, Mary Gay and Rise are looking for more beautiful gardens in our area that may like to be on our future garden walks. If you know of any please let them know.

A motion to adjourn was made by Peg Samuelson and seconded by Mary Gay .

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Immediately following the meeting members were invited to view the gardens at Andrea Waterhouse’s home. Of particular interest there are the walnut trees, which because of their toxicity present a gardening challenge.

Respectfully submitted,

Annie Cochran

Sent from my iPhone