

March Board Meeting
March 27, 2024
Memorial Congregational Church (MCC)
Happy Spring!

Attendance

Barbara Baumgardner, Joanne Bennett, Ann Boland, Diana Cebra, Pat Drobinski, Barbara Fay, Jo Ann Forester, Marilyn Hodges, Mike Hunter, Diane Kaplan Janelle Landrigan, Juju Lem Pang, Leslie Lowe, Patty McCann, Lynn Noland, Carol Shapanka

Secretary's Report

A few corrections were made to the February minutes. A motion was made and seconded to approve the February Board Meeting Minutes dated February 28, 2024. All were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Janelle asked all committee chairs to submit their budgets for next year, 2024-2025 by April 15. A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report dated March 25, 2024. All were in favor.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be on Wednesday, April 24 at 9:00 AM. Ann Boland is checking to see if the MCC is available.

Civic Beautification

Heritage Park Gardening begins on Wednesday April 3rd, 9:30-11:30 AM. The Rail Trail may be finished as early as June 2024. At this time SGC does not have plans to participate in any plantings at this time. The Board will revisit this issue in the Fall.

Grants

The grant applications for the Butterfly garden @ Heritage Park are in progress.

Community Outreach

Next outreach in April is Spring Pansies Wednesday, April 10, 11:30 at MCC (after our meeting). Recipients: Bridges by EPOCH. The pansies may be planted in their back garden after their use indoors.

On April 2, Jo Ann Forester is teaching Flower Arranging For A Cause at LS from 7:00 - 8:30 PM. It is \$39 per person. All will create a small arrangement to take home and several small arrangements that will be delivered to local senior citizens at Orchard Hill. Jo Ann needs a couple SGC assistants. It was suggested Jo Ann seek our LS students needing community service hours. Jo Ann will hand out plant sale information to publicize the event as well as vouchers for a free member plant to entice attendance.

Social Activities:

There will be a Gathering of the Green Thumbs for lunch on Friday, April 5 at noon at the Sudbury Point Grill, 120 Boston Post Rd., Sudbury. Please RSVP to Barbara Fay. There was a discussion of whether or not to offer a dinner option for the Green Thumbs gathering. It was decided that dinner is a good idea but not suitable for a busy month.

Publicity

The publicity for the April 10th Program, at 10:30 AM at MCC entitled Six Simple Steps to Successful Rose Gardening, presented by Mike and Angelina Chute was determined. Barbara Fay will submit it to the Sudbury Weekly and other online papers. Jo Ann will handle the social media posts.

Membership

April is membership renewal month. Members need to renew, as well as sign up for committees, hospitality and library flowers. Ann has been working hard, Sign Up Genius is ready to go. Membership is \$50. Information will be publicized in the April grapevine and postcards are ready to be sent out. A 10 plant donation to the Plant Sale as an additional requirement for membership was discussed.

Juju participated in a zoom call with GCFM regarding recruiting new members. Younger members are needed in most Garden Clubs, ageism is an issue. There will be a dedicated membership booth at the plant sale. Jo Ann suggested members wear the buttons from previous years, directing interested people to ask members about joining the club. A discussion ensued regarding offering membership subscriptions as Mother's Day Gifts that shoppers could buy at the Plant Sale. The subscription could possibly coupled with a small plant. Board members are looking into this as an option. Pricing remains an issue. Juju mentioned that local PTA meetings are another avenue to spread awareness of SGC. Other ideas were a plant swap, a potting party, and teacher grants. Ideas were tabled and may be brought up at the next Board Meeting.

Plant Sale

Leslie informed all that there was going to be a Crafts Boutique at the Plant Sale this year. Additionally, there will be a booth for house plants. Coffee and snacks will be made available on both Friday the 10th and Saturday the 11th for volunteers. No books will be sold. Members can sign up online for Spring digs occurring April 15th to May 2nd. Plants will be put in sanitized pots with new dirt. If members want to self dig, these supplies should be used to prevent pest contamination.

The publicity for this Plant Sale is strong. Yard signs advertising the Plant Sale as well as the Online Sale will be popping up all over town soon, April 1st. Paper flyers will be posted on local bulletin boards.

Members can begin to untrench their Fall plants as early as April 10th, three days of 50 degree weather is ideal for plant survival.

Earth Day

Earth day happens on Saturday, April 20th in the gym/cafeteria at Peter Noyes. SGC has a table and needs volunteers to sign up for split shifts from 10:00 AM-2:00 PM. SGC is undertaking the

creation of promotional items: banner, tablecloth and brochures. These items will be used for education, promotion and recruitment. These items will be funded out of member support and new initiatives this year.

Hospitality

Patty McCann gave an update. April and May will function as normal meetings. The annual meeting is different. She has created a wonderful spreadsheet with all the information on how hospitality sources meetings. All members at the meeting received one of the sheets. Patty hopes this will help in transition to the next member taking over hospitality, Issues around the joint meeting with the Thursday Garden Club were discussed. Next year we need less coffee. The food was perfect. The timing of the meeting was off because there was not enough time to chat pre meeting. This is a problem with holding the meeting at the library, as we can't gain access until 9:30.

Sudbury Non-profit Coffee

Jo Ann and Juju are looking for a member to attend the Sudbury Non Profit Coffee on Thursday, April 11, at 9:30 AM, at the Grange. It would be good to have representation to promote the club and plant sale. We need to RSVP by April 4. Email Jo Ann or Juju if you can help.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is to be held on TUESDAY, June 4th, at the Wayside Inn; this is a change of date. Pat D and Diana C are working on the ticket price, decorations, theme, and meal selection. At this point meal selection is a buffet with consideration of adding in Concord Tea Cake. Additional funding was discussed and tabled until the next Board Meeting.

*Note change, notify membership ASAP

Pat D and Diana Cebra, coordinators, update on price, other details

In/Out Board Meeting

The meeting is scheduled for June 12 at Ann Boland's home. (Jo Ann can't attend).

Philanthropy

Publicity is all set for our scholarship offerings. Jo Ann will establish deadlines for any LS students, residents of Sudbury and college students who graduated from LS are eligible to apply for our two scholarships.

Color Me Floral Workshops (Update)

The March workshop is canceled and will be rescheduled in the Fall. Next year, there will be two CMF Workshops offered. One in the fall and another in January. Alison Hassard, with Frugal Flower, is a "yes" to teach such a workshop in January.

Flower Arrangement Shows Update

Carpools were discussed. Jo Ann has sign ups for those that want to attend together. It is predicted that the budget line will go over the budget line for Flower Show Flowers since we are doing three venues. The price of flowers has risen. The Board voted to move funds from the

canceled Color Me Floral March workshop budget to the Flower Show Budget. A motion was made to do this and approved.

FAM (Fitchburg Art Museum) 26th Annual Art In Bloom
April 25 through April 28, Thursday, April 25th-carpool to FAM, Thursday April 25th

MFA AIB
April 25 through April 28, Friday April 26th-carpool to MFA, Friday April 26th

GCFM

GCFM scholarships applications are due by April 1st (Website, gcfm.org.) The Annual Meeting is June 13th in Andover. Jo Ann cannot attend. Anybody can go, but there is a fee. There are speakers and vendors. Jo Ann is looking for someone to attend in her place.

Sunshine Committee Update

Jeanne Lucey is doing better and able to enjoy Easter with her family; Jean Vnenchak attended the joint meeting; no update was given for Jackie Hauser; Beth lousa is doing better after feeling poorly.

Other

Sudbury Park and Rec- previously known as Fall Fest has been changed to Spring Fest - June 22, 2024 from 12-5 PM. Discussion over whether SGC should have a booth was tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sally Gaburo, recording secretary.