GARDEN CLUB OF DEARBORN

 October 11, 2022

MINUTES

Present were 22 members and Marlene Bankwitz as guest.

The October meeting of the Garden Club of Dearborn (“Club”) was called to order by Rose Wiggle at 6:10 p.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

As the first item of business, the minutes of September 19 were reviewed for approval. Diane Rebori noted that there was one major change pertaining to the discount given to Club members when shopping at ACE Hardware on Michigan Avenue in Dearborn. The correct amount is 5% not 10% as noted in minutes. Linda Johnson moved to approved minutes with correction; seconded by Mary Bugeia and approved.

Next Laurine Griffin reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. She reviewed expenses for September totaling $281.77 with no income for the month. Laurine also reviewed the amounts in the checking account, CD, and Savings Account totaling $12,556.99 as of September 30, 2022. She then reported that she still had a few of the $35 English Garden monthly gift program left of which the Club gets to keep $5.00.

Sherry Kammer then report that next month’s meeting will be to decorate wreaths, etc. which members can donate for sale during the festival of trees. She noted last year was a great success. Sherry reviewed the upcoming meetings: December is the Holly Berry Brunch (“HBB”); January is on Essential Oils promoting good health; and, the Valentine Tea with the CEO of the Belle Isle Conservatory. March and April are yet to be determined.

As the next item of business, Carol Chrzastek asked Linda Johnson, MGC Representative to give an update on the District 1 Conference which was held on October 5, 2022. Linda gave the highlights of the Conference which included Ikabana (Japanese flower arranging) and an afternoon session presented by some of the vendors showing how to do flower arrangements for competition. She noted there was a growth in membership at both the District and State levels. Linda also reported that they are still working to get the Blacktail Swallow butterfly recognized as the State butterfly. Discussion followed regarding how to accomplish this. Lastly, she shared with the Club her tri-fold poster that was used and will be on display at the HBB.

Carol continued with an update on the yearbook which was distributed to those present and will be distributed to those not at the meeting. She continued and asked Terri to give an update on the Holly Berry Brunch. Terri noted that so far the club has received the following donations: ACE Great Lakes in Dearborn gave a $50 gift card; Steven Bernard a $100 gift certificate; Starbucks a gift basket; a total of $500 in gift cards from Fairlane Mall merchants; Great Escape $60 massage; The Henry one night stay with brunch and a night stay at the Dearborn Inn. Wrapping Committee needs gifts prior to Nov. 25th. A review of the menu was announced and Mary will be making the reservations.

Mary then reported on external affairs beginning with the Smokey Bear & Woodsy Owl 2023 Poster Contest noting that Terri has been working on this project for months. Lindenbergh School will participate. Posters will be submitted to the State of Michigan and winner goes to the National level. There will be Michigan Garden Club scholarship of $1000 for students in environmental programs at 21 different colleges. She also noted that this was a good way for young people to be involved and promote nature. Lastly Mary noted she has the tickets for the Holly Berry Brunch. The room will be set up for 25 tables of 8 and Mary asked to be notified if any member or guest have any special dietary needs. It was announced that Jo West needs help to sell raffle tickets and reminded members to bring return labels to use on raffle tickets.

Mary then asked Karen Marzonie to give an update on the Pollinator & Enabling Garden (PEG). Karen reported they have planted wildflowers that they received from the Friends of the Rouge kit. PEG will continue to have meeting through the winter and that if anyone wished to participate contact her or Cynthia Casillas.

Mary continued by reporting that the Dearborn Health Expo was coming this Friday. The Club will have a booth and banner and will be raffling off a plant. She also noted that the Club has two planters at the Dearborn Train Station.

Rose next reported on the Club’s trip to Belle Isle. Those who went were given a private tour. There being no further announcements, she asked Sherry Kammer to introduce our speaker, Cheryl English, Advanced Master Gardner who spoke on “Gardening for Birds, Strategies for Supporting Our Native Birds and the Natural Communities”.

Cheryl began by reviewing the catastrophic loss of native birds and their causes. She spoke of functional habitation and food forage issues for adult and young birds. Then Sherry addressed the importance o f water, shelter, external lighting , and significant vector for bird mortality. She ended her presentation by providing information on where people could obtain native plants.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on November 14th at noon.

Respectfully submitted

Diane Rebori

Recording Secretary