

Sand Lake Garden Club

January 26, 2023 – Annual Member Meeting Minutes

President Sally Perry welcomed our members and guests to the meeting.

Our Program **“Soil testing and how to buy soil”** was presented by:

David Chinery, the Senior Resource Extension Educator for the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County.

After several comments and questions from the members, President Sally Perry thanked David Chinery for an informative and enjoyable presentation.

The Business Meeting was then called to order at 7:35 PM, with approximately 23 members in attendance.

Treasurer’s Report – Hollis McEvelly
Balance as of 1/26/23 - \$6,423.15

Joan Gross reported that the 2022 audit has been completed and all figures are accurate.

The 2023 Budget was presented, indicating figures with and without a Garden Faire. The final budget will be presented at the February Meeting.

The board voted on the \$15.00 increase in dues at our board meeting, due to the rise in speaker fees, insurance, administrative fees, town hall rental from \$15.00 to \$25.00/month and no increase in dues in many years. Janice Berryann made a motion to allow for a hardship fee of \$10.00 if asked, Pat Mulligan seconded the motion.

There was discussion on raising the scholarship to \$600.00. Joan Gross indicated it will be considered, saying we need to be conservative if the Garden Faire does not take place this year and if membership dwindles due to increase in membership fees. The \$500.00 scholarship was increased to \$600.00 last year due to speakers donating back their speaker fees.

Sally Perry handed out a form on Garden Faire assignments, as well as Committee Interest forms. These forms will also be emailed to members. Sally has asked

members to look them over and see what interests you. When looking over these forms, think about teaming up with someone and in doing such we can divide and conquer the Garden Faire this year. Members have been asked to mail or email them back. The tentative date for the Garden Faire is May 20th, 2023. Considering that Cornell Cooperative is having their Spring Garden Day in March, they may or may not join the Garden Faire this year, they are still considering this.

Janice Berryann had asked about bringing door prizes back to the monthly meetings, she indicated she would be happy to be in charge, Joan Grusensky also indicated that she would be happy to help. It was something she and others thought was a nice addition to the monthly meetings. We will be looking forward to this at our February meeting.

President Sally Perry recapped 2022 and the many accomplishments throughout the year.

- ✓ We came back from Covid!
- ✓ We now enjoy a 'Meet and Greet' as part of our now in-person meetings
- ✓ From our monthly programs we learned how to:
 - Grow and Tend one of our garden favorites - roses
 - Recognize and avoid ticks
 - Collect and save seeds
 - Make gorgeous flower arrangements
 - Appreciate bats
 - And Create wonderful container gardens
- ✓ The Community Gardens as always have been maintained by our dedicated garden teams.
- ✓ We received recognition for our involvement in Town Clean Up Day
- ✓ Our Plant Sale was reinvented as a successful Garden Faire
- ✓ A deserving student was presented with a \$600.00 scholarship
- ✓ Our members enjoyed a visit to Historic Montgomery Place Gardens.
- ✓ We relished and enjoyed a relaxing annual picnic.
- ✓ Season's greetings were extended and a good time was had by all at the annual Holiday Party

Sally extended a big thank you to each and every person for all of what we accomplished in 2022.

Let's look forward to more great times, more learning, laughing and fun for 2023.

The nomination committee conducted a search for 3 candidates. Rose Dorr announced the candidates: Judy Kasianczuk, Ellen Dunn and Ellen Sagar. There were no nominations from the floor. Rose Dorr cast a vote for the new nominees. Motion was made by Eileen Van Oort to close the nominations. Pat Mulligan made a motion to accept, Helen Dolan seconded.

Thank you to Andy Mace and Cathy Welling for their time served on the board.

The new Board then moved to an executive session. Sally indicated she will not be President this year, in the interim she will act as Vice President. Hollis McEvelly agreed to continue as Treasurer and Co-Secretary, and Guy Castine agreed to fill the position of Co-Secretary. There will be an ongoing search for a President. Russ motioned to proceed with a vote for the proposed Officers, seconded by Rose.

The new board returned from executive session and the 2023 board and officers were announced.

Sally Perry – Vice President
Hollis McEvelly – Treasurer & Co-Secretary
Guy Castile – Co-Secretary
Anna Church
Russ Getting
Ellen Sagar
Ellen Dunn
Rose Dorr

Congratulations all around!

With no further comments or questions,
Sally thanked everyone for coming and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM