**Town & Country Garden Club Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Community/Senior Center**

**October 12, 2022**

6:04 pm Business meeting called to order by President Chris Lincoln with 28 members present.

**Membership:** Denise welcomed new member Jennifer Morsey formerly from Danbury. She said that she was happy to join the club and learn more about gardening. She also introduced Marcy from Southbury who is new to town and is a master gardener who is thinking about joining our club

**Announcements:** Josie Schmidt will take notes for Judy Beers, recording secretary who is still recovering from hip surgery.

Chris thanked club members Gail D., Jan and Frank G, Josie S, Arline and Ed S, Teri D, Mary Ellen W, Emi L., Jane V. Barb O. who worked for several hours to clean up Diana’s gardens for Wayland.

She thanked Arline Shanley, Barbara O'Connor, Margareta Kotch, and Peg Townsend for working on the flowers for Diana’s memorial service.

Chris also thanked Josie S, Gail D, Teri D, Mary Ellen W, Denise R. Elaine Sullivan, Barb M. and Barb O who worked with her on the Fairfield scarecrow project.

She then called for a motion to approve the minutes from the September general meeting. The motion was made by Arline and seconded by Emi. The motion was voted on and approved without correction.

Miscellaneous:

Chris told members that Peggy Fillion will be selling raffle tickets for the $25.00 gift card from Caraluzzi's during the meeting. They are $2.00 or 3 for $5.00

She also reminded members that you could vote for our sponsor Sal e Pepe for Ct magazine’s Readers Choice Award by just going to the Sal e Pepe website and following the steps to vote. Also she encouraged members to check out the incredible fall displays at Shakespeare’s Garden.

The Awards Luncheon will be on October 26, 2022, at The Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville CT. We hope to have a table for our members. There are clubs there from around the state who are presented with awards from the Federation. There are also vendors and floral displays to see. The cost is $42 dollars which includes a luncheon choice of NY strip steak , salmon, chicken, or veggie pasta.

If you plan to attend please notify Chris before October 16, which is the deadline.

**Treasurer’s report**: Joy Kopesky given by Chris in Joy’s absence.

Current Balance of $6.039.37

There is about $600 in the discretionary fund that are donations from Diana’s friends and family. Joy has sent a letter to the cemetery board asking for permission to plant a tree, donated by Chuck in her honor and a plaque.

**Committee Reports:**

**Christmas Tree –** Barbara McCann has volunteered to be the chairperson and said she will be asking Jane Vouros for advice. She got names of members that would like to be on that committee.

**Conservation**: Nancy Azzaro presented information from the New York Times about growing clover lawns instead of grass. She said that they are more heat resistant and also attract pollinators. You can save money on fertilizer and save water by having a clover lawn. She spoke about the Perfect Earth Project, promoting toxin-free lawns and landscapes for the health of people, their pets, and the planet.

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**Horticulture**: Barbara O’Connor distributed handouts on a variety of vegetables and fruits and

different ways that you can care each and prepare them for fall.

**Civic**: Mary Ellen Weiner was not in attendance

**Ways and Means**: Peg Fillion

Reminded members of our fundraiser for October 19 at The Barnwood Grill. Telling members that we are able to go for either lunch, dinner, or takeout that day, and a portion of the bill will go to the club. You will have a small coupon to show the servers that you are at the event for the club fundraiser. It is a “no work” way to earn money for the club. Please encourage your friends and relatives to attend and help support our club.

She held the raffle, and our newest member Jennifer was the winner of the $25 gift card. The club made $64 on the raffle.

**Exhibits 6:40 – Artistic Creative Mass Design**

Josie, Arline, and Barbara O. brought in their designs.

**Horticulture** Barbara O., Karen, and Arline brought in flowering branches

**6:48 the business meeting was adjourned.**

**Programs**: Jan introduced Michele MacKinnon our presenter who spoke about planting bulbs and which you could plant in the fall and in the spring. She gave hints for the best way to plant them and things you might do to discourage wildlife from eating the bulbs. She said that she preferred ordering bulbs from catalogues because although your local big box retailers often carry a small selection of bulbs, they’re usually pretty basic and lack variety. They’re also not always the best quality and may be mushy or already sprouting. If you want the best bulbs, online nurseries are the way to go. There were several questions answered and then Michele ended with some information on dahlias, and she will give us further information in April.

Respectfully submitted by Josie Schmidt for Judy Beers, Recording Secretary

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