

## Vernon Garden Club, Minutes from April 17, 2017

The April 17, 2017, regular Vernon Garden Club meeting opened at 8:39 with president Betty Wardrop presiding.

Eva's Secretary's Report for the March 20 meeting was accepted by a motion from Celinda Weber, seconded by Toni Royal.

Elly's Treasurer's report showed expenses of \$20 to register for the "Town-wide Tag Sale," \$200 rental for use of First Congregational Church meeting room, and \$175, cost of our March Program. Toni moved to accept the report, Sandi Justin seconded.

Betty mentioned the sad passing of member Teri Dickey-Gaignat, and indicated some of her accomplishments with our club. Flowers were sent to her wake and many attended services.

Betty mentioned that our Tag Sale as part of the Vernon Tag Sale will be held April 29, 2017, at Jane Saich's home, 54 Trout Stream Drive, Vernon (860.871.6242). Jane will accept items beginning, Monday, April 24. Items should be clean, usable and in good condition. Baked goods are requested as well. Betty needs double folding light-weight tables. We will also need help sorting and pricing items on Thursday (April 27) and Friday (April 28). If you signed up to help on the day of the sale, please remember to be on time.....for questions, or to help, please call Betty at 860.872.4028.

Sandi Justin showed us a photo of the painting to interpret with our arrangement at the Atheneum's "Arts and Flowers" annual gala opening on April 29. If you want to help Anne and Sandi with the display, they will be working at Sandi's house on Thursday, April 27.

MaryAnn Defley and Cindi Bruce passed out packets of sticks and directions for our VGC Plant Sale at Sacred Heart Church on May 13. Each member is asked to provide 10 plants or \$25 in lieu of plants for this fund raiser. Please pot your plants **NOW** or as soon as possible—at least 2 weeks prior to the sale—to establish a root system. Please deliver your perky plants soon after 7 am on the day of the sale, correctly labeled (note: **there will be a special table for "unknowns"**) to the appropriate table for pricing, and check off your name from the list.

Pouring rain date is the following Saturday, May 20. Also, please bring clean garden-related items-in good condition-for our "Garden Treasures" table manned by Lorraine Staley. Mary Cross has extra plants for those who might not have enough plants of your own, call her before you come to dig. If you signed up to work at the sale, please be on time and wear your badge.

Betty mentioned that our Fieldtrip to the Wicked Tulips Flower Farm in Johnstown, RI, has been postponed until May 2.

Sandi Justin and Lorraine Staley of the **Nominating Committee** are still seeking a president for next year. Most of the other positions have been filled. Thanks to all who volunteered to help.

**Civic Improvement** co-chairs, Matt and Ginny want to fertilize and mulch the gardens at Vernon Circle and the Northeast Garden on Saturday, April 22, beginning at 9 am at the Vernon garden. Betty and Bill have worked in the garden; Betty noted vole activity. Matt will purchase

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Red Hemlock mulch from Agway and distribute bags in the gardens as he did last year. Everyone's help is needed, please be careful of the tulips and daffodils in the garden. See you there!

**Conservation** chair, Mary Cross mentioned a website of the National Pesticide Information Center for information on beneficial insects. <http://npic.orst.edu/envir/beneficial/index.html>

**Herb Garden** chairman, Ellie Fiske wants helpers to clean out the herb garden at Valley Falls on Tuesday of the last week in May. She also warned members it's going to be a bad tick season. Check yourself carefully after gardening—there are many tick diseases with terrible consequences.

**Jr Gardeners Program** chairman Celinda Weber reported that the 5-week program at LSS begins on April 24. 18 students are registered to learn about gardening and plants. More helpers are needed; if you would like to help, please call Celinda.

Mary Cross reported that the Master Gardeners plant sale will be held at TAC on June 3, beginning at 9 am.

**Hospitality Committee** Barbara McCarthy thanked tonight's bakers, Cindy, Bobbie and Mary for the delicious baked goods provided for tonight's meeting. And thanks to Maggie Clayton for the tulipy florals.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 by a motion from Mary Cross, seconded by Sandi Justin.

Respectfully submitted for Eva Perrina, Jean Merz