

**Lexington Field & Garden Club**  
**General Meeting**  
**April 8, 2009**

**President Gill called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.** She went on to give thanks to those providing refreshments, Ellen Purinton, Betty Clark, Dorothy Lally, Mary Nokes and Amelia Yanakis, to Joan Farr for the beautiful flower arrangement and to Sandra Natale for greeting today. President Gill especially thanked Ellen Purinton for arranging hospitality and reminded members to call Ellen to offer to help in future meetings.

President Gill then welcomed all the attendees, including 5 guests.

**Recording Secretary:** Jane Beswick read a summary of the Minutes from the March 11th General Meeting and announced that the full text would be available on our website or through contacting her.

**Minutes were approved as read.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Ann Webster presented the most recent financial report, stating that we have \$40,579 in our accounts and indicating that a full report will be given at the May annual meeting. Members were asked to hand in reimbursement requests by April 15, as they are due by the end of the fiscal year.

-Today was our annual Presidents' Day. President Gill asked our past Presidents to stand and be recognized as all gave them a warm welcome.

-President Gill presented a check for \$2000 to Mr. Dick Travers, thanking the Museum for providing us this meeting space. Mr. Travers then thanked the club, stating that the money will go towards the Museum endowment and that they appreciate and enjoy having us.

**Announcements:**

-There have been difficulties with delivery of the newsletter lately and members are requested to call the post-office if they haven't received the newsletter by the week of the meeting. A majority of those attending today's meeting, however, had received the newsletter this month.

-President Gill thanked Georgia Glick and Denise Grenier, who are representing us at the MFA's Art In Bloom this year. The schedule is different this year with the set up on Friday, April 24, and the arrangements on display only until Monday, April 27.

-The annual Arbor Day Ceremony, honoring our members who have passed away in the previous year, will occur on Friday, April 24, on the grounds of the Buckman Tavern. President Gill expressed hope that many would attend and then she went on to give thanks to the Civic Improvement Committee for their hard work in planning this special event.

-Sign-up sheets were distributed for the following upcoming events:

- The Althea Phillips Scholarship Awards presentation is scheduled for Thursday, April 30, at 10 a.m., at the Minuteman Regional High School, followed by lunch available at a modest cost.
- The Annual Luncheon will be at Dalya's in Bedford after the Annual Meeting on May 13. Second Vice President Kassie Kattwinkle talked about the luncheon. Kassie went on to further acknowledge our past presidents who were given flowers today and also to thank and acknowledge our current President, Kate Gill, with a mixed bouquet.
- The Plant Sale will be on Wednesday, May 20. Diana Bailey spoke about the various jobs needed and asked for volunteers in various capacities including participating in potting sessions, donating of houseplants and gently used tools, donating perennials (labeled) and working on the day preceding and the day of the sale.
- The biannual Garden Tour will be held on Saturday, June 6. President Gill asked for volunteers to be greeters for two-hour shifts.
- On April 20 our club will be marching in the Patriots' Day parade to help publicize all the projects and events that the LFGC provides to the town. Those who march will be provided new Garden Club aprons to wear, which can then be purchased at a discount.

-Dues for the coming year are due no later than May 15<sup>th</sup>. Only half of the dues have so far been received.

-President Gill called for a motion regarding changing the by-laws to allow two people to share the responsibility of elected Board members, such as President and First Vice President. She stated that although the current by-laws do not prohibit this, they do not clearly state this as a possibility. The following change was moved, seconded, and passed by voice vote:

**Motion made to make the following change in the bylaws (In the by-laws,) on page 13 in the Yearbook, under Article 4, “officers” Section One, to insert this sentence:**

*The following positions for elected officers may be held by one or two persons as a joint responsibility, as is determined by the Nominating Committee.*

**Moved, seconded, and passed.**

-President Gill then spoke about our history as a club. Mr. Fred Emery started the LFGC on May 17, 1876, with the stated object of “the care and protection of trees and shrubs in the streets and public places of Lexington and the improvement of the town by the planting of additional trees and ornamental plants, the study and development of the natural resources of this vicinity, the cultivation of taste in arboriculture and horticulture and the discussion of these and kindred subjects.” The first activity of the association was that of getting the Town to purchase property by the railroad depot to be cleaned up and made into a park. Today this same area is known as Emery Park. For the past year, members of our club have been working hard on making needed improvements at this park but there are currently only eight volunteers. President Gill talked about her hopes for more participation and commitment from all of our members on this and other activities.

-Harriet Hathaway presented the Horticultural Minute on Hydrangeas.

-President Gill closed the business meeting at 10:35 a.m.

**Guest Speaker:** First VP Teresa Deible introduced the speaker of the day, Ivor Morgan, presenting on “Antarctica’s Environmental Challenges.” Mr. Morgan is a member of the LFGC. He lived and worked in the west coast of the Antarctic Peninsula from 1961-1964 as a topographical and hydrographical surveyor for the British Antarctica Survey.

Jane Beswick, Recording Secretary