

**LEXINGTON FIELD AND GARDEN CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING  
MAY 13, 2009**

**President Gill called the meeting to order at 10:10 am.**

President Gill then welcomed guests and went on to give thanks to Hospitality Committee Chair Ellen Purinton and her committee members for the morning's refreshments and service throughout the year. Other members of the club were urged to volunteer to assist Ellen and the Hospitality Committee by signing up to provide food at forthcoming meetings.

**Recording Secretary:** Margaret Bradley read a summary of minutes from the April meeting

**Treasurer's Report:** Ann Webster reported that the total of all bank accounts was \$37,142 and that all bills were paid. She stated that more detailed information would be provided in her annual report.

**President's Announcements:**

-President Gill congratulated Jackie Ward who received the official Town Cane in recognition of her years of service to the community.

-Dues payments must reach the membership chair by 5/15. Those who fail to pay by 5/30 will not be listed in the membership book which might result in exclusion from the benefits of a proposed list of merchants willing to offer discounts on purchases to LFGC members.

- The club website has information about the flower and garden show to be held at Elm Bank 5/30.

-President Gill thanked Arlex Fuel for their gift of \$ 250 to be used for traffic island expenses.

-Two senior students at Minuteman Technical High School received the Althea Phillips Awards. LFGC scholarship presenters enjoyed a tour of the facility and lunch in the school restaurant. The sale on 5/18 of plants grown by the students was announced as well as Community Appreciation Days to be held May 12 -15 and May 19-22.

-A meeting to discuss community farms and the possible use of the Busa Farm property was announced for 5/27. LFGC and Tree Committee member Ann Senning will report on the state of town trees 6/5 at the LWV First Friday series.

- Russell Morash's talk about the Victory Garden, which was given at the joint meeting of LFGC and the Historical Society on April 3, 2009, is available from LexMedia. The program is included in the Historical Society Events section.

-President Gill appealed for help with the Emory Park maintenance project and a traffic island near the former Lexington Gardens.

### **Plant Sale**

Diana Bailey stated that more than a thousand plants would be available and that help was needed with advertising before the sale. She urged members to post flyers as widely as possible. Tuesday before the sale transport of plants from 6 Coach Rd. to the Museum, loading and unloading requires volunteers. Set up on Wednesday begins at 7:00 AM; breakdown will occur about 2:00 PM. Again, help is needed. She asked that others contribute baked goods for the workers at the sale. Member Jim Jones will be available to provide expert advice. She asked that volunteers consult with her about times, locations etc.

President Gill thanked the co-chairs for their efforts.

### **Garden Tour**

Sue Bush asked cookie bakers to deliver their goods to her house on June 5 between 10:am and 2:00 PM. She assured everyone that there was still time to contribute cookies. Four more greeters at the gardens are needed. Volunteers are asked to call Elinor Greenway for details.

### **Herb Garden**

Nancy Hubert reminded the members that Helen Noyes Webster, an expert on herbs, planned the garden behind Buckman Tavern, which is now her memorial garden, in about 1949. Wednesday Workshop has served as caretaker since then. Simultaneously a black walnut tree has grown large enough to shade the garden and its roots are quite likely releasing allelopathic compounds. The tree can only be removed with the approval of the Town Tree Committee. Although the garden is not of the period of the tavern, it is historically significant because it was designed by a well-known expert on herbs (Helen Noyes Webster), is over 50 years old, and has been maintained throughout that period by members of the Lexington Field and Garden Club. Available womanpower for the care of the garden is limited. Ms. Hubert sought the will of the meeting as to the advisability of continuing the herb garden. The Historical Society is neutral. The Hancock Clarke house herb garden will be planted with herbs appropriate to the house. Ms Hubert asked members to contact her individually with their thoughts on continuing with the Helen Noyes Webster garden."

### **Horticultural Trip**

Ann Webster announced that an excursion to the perennial garden nursery in Byfield is planned for June 11:00. Arrangements for carpooling and lunch will be determined closer to the departure date.

At 10:40 am, President Gill announced that if there were no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned and the annual meeting would follow immediately.

Jane Beswick, Recording Secretary