

**LEXINGTON FIELD AND GARDEN CLUB
GENERAL MEETING
September 9, 2009**

President Gill called the meeting to order at 10:05 am.

President Gill then welcomed six guests and gave thanks to Ellen Purinton for her hospitality efforts for each of our meetings. She also thanked Sandra Natale, Margaret Lewis, Claire Bertucci, Sarah Maroney and Marta Ash for providing today's refreshments; Joan Farr for the flower arrangement; and greeters Lillian Cohen and Sarah Maroney.

Recording Secretary: Jane Beswick read a summary of minutes from the May General Meeting and Annual Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Ann Webster reported that Club finances are in good shape with our operating funds totaling \$32,000 and our restricted funds totaling \$16,000. The Garden Tour brought in \$5700, a 25% higher profit than last time.

President's Announcements:

-President Gill announced with sadness the death of Linda Polhill, formerly a very active member of the Club. Before moving to Florida twelve years ago, Linda ran the Plant Sale for many years and was instrumental in designing and caring for the grounds at St. Brigid's.

-In order to get better acquainted with our newest members the Membership Committee has begun to include them as greeters at our general meetings each month, as well as helping with sign-in and hospitality. New members' badges are green and now have color-coded flowers that indicate their club interests such as horticulture, town gardening and flower arranging. Older members are urged to reach out to the new members, making them feel welcome by inviting them to join sub-groups and committees.

-The New Member Orientation will be held on Wednesday, September 23, at Christina Gamota's home.

-On Sunday, September 20, Tower Hill will be open to the public for free.

-Also on September 20, at 5:00 pm, Lexington will host an event at Cary Hall to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of Minuteman National Park. Georgia Glick and Mary Gillespie have organized a group of our members to create numerous floral displays for the celebration.

-The Lexington Post Office has promised to deliver our Newsletter on time in the future.

-The Lexington Tree Committee and some of our Club members are recruiting volunteers to help do some weeding this fall at Belfry Hill around the bases of the newly planted trees there. Anne Senning is circulating a sign-up sheet for Tuesday September 15 and Thursday October 15.

-The Garden Club Federation is offering two courses of study this fall. The Landscape Design Study Program will be held at Regis College in Weston, October 15 -17. The Environmental Study School will be held November 7 and 8 in Hull, MA. You can call or email Mary Nokes for more information.

-The Lexington Global Warming Action Coalition is holding an Energy Fair on Sunday, October 4, at the Depot Building. Mary Nokes is organizing a table to represent our Club, with information on composting and other gardening subjects. Please sign up to help plan and staff this event.

-Members are reminded to sign up with Ann Webster our horticultural trip to the Long Hill Gardens and Essex River Cruise, September 24. More details are in our newsletter.

-A local gardener has requested information about an infestation of “stinky squid mushrooms.”

At 10:31 am, President Gill adjourned the business meeting.

Horticultural Minute: Varda Haimo talked about steps in converting a lawn area to a garden.

Program: It was announced that our scheduled speaker, Ellen Sousa, had to cancel due to a broken leg. Vice President Teresa Deible found a substitute speaker, one of our newer members, Lynette Tsiang. Lynette gave a very interesting slide presentation on Gardens of Japan.

Jane Beswick, Recording Secretary