**February Meeting Minutes**

**Opening/ Welcome New Members**:

• Lisa: Read a Thank You note from Kathy at Weymouth Youth Services to the Club – largest contribution to date, our donations helped over 100 children have a Happy Holiday!

Looking to fill the Recording Secretary position. Must be able to attend all meetings. The Nominating Committee will be Chaired by Jean Berg for the positions of Treasurer and Recording Secretary.

• Special Guest – Cindy Dunn – our regional representative from the GCFM

• Treasurer’s Report, Carole: 95 members! 32 of them are new this year. Penny Pines collected $97 another $39 would fund 2 acres in a National Forest. We still have time to raise the funds.

$3,000 to Weymouth Scholarship Fund – Agreed to 2 at $1500 each.

Proceeds from the 2023 Plant Sale were $5,818.

Carole recommends the May 18, 2024 Plant sale goal of $7,000 – a 20% increase

• Corresponding Secretary, Terry - Working with MailChimp on Newsletter with Karen Plaskon, should be ready in March.

• Approved November Minutes – unanimous.

**New Business**

• Books in Bloom: 60 displays this year, a record!! Last year was a record breaking 46. 43 participants, some did more than one. Breakdown of participants: 29 Members, 5 from reading group, 4 from Wey Art Assoc, 1 from senior center, 4 Librarians and 3 Children. Marjorie from GCFM had wonderful comments on our FB page. Regina tracked the wonderful comments. Would be great to add them to our social media and use in next year’s campaign to get folks involved.

Noted Attendees: Reps from Hull, Hough’s Neck, Scituate, Wollaston, and Kingston Garden Club. 2 people from CT, 1 from Maine, and a complimentary gentleman that stated he was happy he didn’t have to vote as all arrangements were lovely!

Michelle mentioned that the sign up for next year will be improved

• Garden Therapy – At Pope Nursing Home, 2/15 at 10:30, looking for and collecting red vases, contact Mary.

• Charlotte D. is collecting monetary donations for the Weymouth Food Pantry. A preference for checks to be made out to the Weymouth Food Pantry - so the donors get the tax credit. You can mail or bring it to the next meeting.

• Paula F: Please bring non-perishable Food Pantry donations to the March and April meeting. Looking for a long shelf life.

• Yoshie/ Lisa: Library Programs goal is 3 to 4 for 2024. Any ideas for programs send to Yoshie and Lisa. The Feb 21st Kokedama program is already full.

* Lisa read note from Mayre: Field Trips: Wellesley Botanical Garden, Meet at Job lot parking lot, Weymouth on March 14th at 11:15am – car pool. The tour is free, donations appreciated. Later in Spring – Long Hill Estate (TBD)

• April Elections – Carole for Treasurer. Search in progress for Recording Secretary.

• Anne: The Beautification team are regrouping and outlining the year and what to tackle. Abigail Adams April cleanup, daffodil signage. Need to maintain the Green – 6 sessions to weed, prune, look nice, perhaps some programs about gardening or historical information – 10-15 mini program to make it an educational and social evening as well. June – Aug, dates to come.

 The Abigail Adams Village Green roses need help, People with knowledge of roses are being asked to help.

 Connecting with WHS to help us as community service work for mulching the AAVG.

 DPW – maintenance and beautification. Planters were painted black last year. This year for the plant sale they will be filled with colorful flowers.

 Fog Library Planter outside the lower-level entrance will be attended to again this year with plants.

 Nash elementary school Butterfly Garden – big clean up last year, the school is doing studies on decomposition.

• Suzanne and Charlotte: **Plant Sale will be Saturday, May 18th from 8:30am to 12 noon**. The drop off will be Friday, May 17th from 4:30 – 7pm. As in previous years, we ask Members to bring 10 plants or more to the sale. The more we sell, the more scholarship funds we can provide!

There will be more information to come, but some of the highlights to know: Veggies and Herbs are needed. House plants as well. These accompany the many garden plants we all bring as well. We do not offer or sell any invasive plants.

Please identify all plants or seeds you bring to sell or offer. We have the wide popsicle sticks you can take to use. Include: Name of plant, color, shade or sun, annual or perennial.

We will have a “Garden Shed” table! Do you have gently used garden items and supplies – if you can bring them, we can sell them!

Suzanne and Charlotte C have asked us to send ideas for the plant sale to them. Some ideas that were heard: Native plants area? Seed swap? Childrens section?

Charlotte D: Raffle! We will be hosting the wildly successful raffle again this year at the plant sale. More info to come!

Submitted by Charlotte Nichols