**Mahtomedi Garden Club Board of Directors Meeting**
**April 7th, 2018**

Attending: Mary Kiel (President), Kay Martin (Immediate Past President), Jean Melancon (Member at Large and Membership Committee), Jackie Metelak (Vice President and Speaker Committee), Mary Berg (Treasurer), Heather Griggs (Garden Tour Committee), Jeanne Zlonis (Grants Committee), Kathy Jennings (Member at Large), Jane Palzar (Membership Committee), Cheryl Frey (Plant Sale Committee), Cathy Tarnowski (Mission Statement).

I. The meeting was called to order by President Mary Kiel

II. Minutes - This is formally the first meeting of with the new Board of Directors structure. The minutes from the full Club Membership meeting in January 2018 were reviewed. Jackie moved to approve the minutes as presented and Cathy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Mission Statement - Cathy Tarnowski gave a summary of the January mission statement meeting and member feedback. The overall response was for the mission to broad and succinct. Cathy will share this with the membership and continue the work in September.

IV. Report from the President – Mary Kiel

- Mary welcomed members to our new meeting process. She thanked all those willing to serve in a volunteer role as a chair person and as a Board Member. This is the Board of Directors first meeting in April. The goal of our new process is to make our general meetings easier, informative and interactive. The organizational plan is to have a brief five-minute review after each meeting of what went well in order to improve in our future. The Board will conduct the business functions of the Club. All Club members are welcome to attend and the minutes of the Board meetings will be sent out to the full membership.
- *The WBL magazine* has a featured article about three of the gardens that will be on our June 2018 anniversary tour. Mary will try to obtain a copy of the magazine. The group indicated support for purchasing "Belle Jardin" (beautiful garden) wine as a thank you to those willing to host. Mary will make the purchase.
- A working group is being formed to pursue our *501c3 status and other business fillings*. We need volunteers to assist with this time limited tasks. Jean M and Kathy J have volunteered to participate in this time limited project. We will also need outside resources to move this forward. Please let Mary know of your interest.
- *Member to Member time*- We would like to organize member time during our meetings. This would be a time to learn and discuss gardening topics with those in attendance. If this is an interest area you could help in please let Mary know.
- *75th Anniversary –*
    1. The Club designated a reserve of up to $5000 to do some kind of permanent project in the city. A Task force needs to be formed to identify options and create a proposal.
    2. The Club also needs to schedule a meeting for those members interested in preservation of historical items and information. Wally Lauria currently has records and items in storage and a more permanent solution needs to be determined.
    3. An Anniversary special event is scheduled for Saturday August 11th and will take place at the WBCA. The Club is celebrating a 75 year anniversary and the WBCA is celebrating their 50th. A collaborative event with them is being planned and many details are being worked out.

- Some event options include an opportunity for Club members to create floral interpretations of pieces of art on display at the WBCA. Several categories of voting will take place and prizes will be given to the winner in each category.
- A speaker on Native plants and pollinators is planted.
- A presentation by Kinji Akagawa the artist and arts educator who lead the design of WBCA is being planned.
- Education tables on subjects such as native plants, pollinators, and home landscaping

The project will need funding in order to pay for the cost of the event. We have money left over in our speaker budget to pay for the speaker but need to request the Board consider spending some of our discretionary funds to pay for other items. A proposal of up to $500 was asked to be considered.

IV. *Garden Tour* – Heather reported that the tour is scheduled for June 24th. The pre tour is the Wed. before and the post tour gathering will be at the WBCA. 6 out of 7 garden hosts have been confirmed. Owatonna will be returning with visitors and we can expect approximately 35—40 guests. Susan will assist with tour hosting. Shoreview Garden Club has requested tickets as well. Tickets will be limited to 300 maximum.

V. Membership –
Jeanne Melancon - The Committee is working to restructure meetings. We will sign in, do introductions, welcome and announcements. The speaker will be from 9:30 to 10:30 (morning meetings) or 6:30-7:30 (evening meetings). The committee is also developing a member interest survey. This information will be sent to members to verify their email address. The second part of the survey will be sent to members asking them to indicate their interests. The information will be a read only and be an on line form that lists your gardening interests. This will help members know others interests and create a means to connect with one another.

IV. Treasurer Report –
Mary Berg reported that our budget balance is approximately $25,400.Mary passed out a copy of our budget and expenses for YTD. Our fiscal year runs from September to August. Quicken Books has been installed to make our accounting easier. A motion was made and seconded to approve spending up to $500 for the 75th anniversary event. (The speaker fee is from the speaker fund which was not fully spent and the balance will be from the discretionary fund). The motion carried.

V. Speakers - Jackie reported that there will be eight speakers this year. She has also sent out a topic survey to members.

VI. Grants – Jeane Zlonis reported that there are seven proposals that the committee recommends for a total of $2200. A request from Ox and Crow was also submitted. It is recommended that they collaborate together. A request from the Harms project to build handicapped raise beds was submitted by was not submitted on time. A motion was made by Heather seconded by Mary K to fund $250 for this project. A motion was made by Cathy and seconded by Jean Z to approve the recommendations from the grant committee to the Club. The motion carried.

VII. Plant Sale – Cheryl F reported that Roberta R has volunteered to coordinate the volunteer sign up. Flyers are being printed this week.

VIII. Summer Activities - Kay M reported that a potential bus tour to the Musinger/Clemons gardens in St. Cloud along with a few private gardens is scheduled for July 28th.
No fuss tours are pending hosts. Kay will keep members abreast of late summer plans.

IX. Adjourn. The next full Board of Directors meeting is in September. The first regular club meeting is scheduled for Sept. 12th.

Minutes submitted by: Susan Warweg, Club Secretary