

Minden and District Horticultural Society  
Minutes of the General Meeting  
Minden Community Centre,  
September 3, 7 p.m.

1. Call to Order

2. Laurie Carmount addressed the group about the condition of the 3 sisters garden. It has been a difficult year for the garden, weather-wise and weeds have taken over. This kind of garden originated with First Nations. However, they did not actually engage in agriculture here, rather this area was their summer hunting, fishing and trapping grounds. It was the early settlers who began agriculture here and their vegetable gardens were a very important part of it all. A hardy wheat, red fife was also usually planted. Laurie asked us to consider growing that type of garden instead of the 3 sisters. Also, perhaps the children who now plant the 3 sisters could have a more ongoing role in managing the garden throughout the growing season.

However, Laurie stated that would if we decided to continue as in the past that would be acceptable.

Pat Johnson said that the youth committee would consider the ideas.

3. Master Gardener: Lou Loree gave a talk on daffodils or narcissi.

Benefits include resistance to squirrels and they multiply over time rather than dwindle.

She listed the family divisions: 1. *Trumpet*, 2. *Large Cup*, 3. *Small Cup*, 4. *Double*, 5. *Triandrus*, 6. *Cyclamineus*, 7. *Jonquilla*, . 8. *Tazetta*, 9. *Poetica*, 10. *Bulbocodium*, 11. *Split Cup*, 12. *Other Daffodils*, 13. *Daffodils Distinguished By Their Botanical Name*.

Daffodils multiply by cloning or by sexual pollination. They like sun, but flower before trees leaf out in spring so will grow in a shady spot, although the blooming will probably diminish over time. Dig up poorly blooming bulbs in the fall and separate them.

4. Julia Donnelly introduced Anna Mizyn from Anna's Perennials in Lindsay who spoke on "Perennial Grasses and Cacti."

Perennial grasses are a large family with 650 genera and 10,000 species. Pampas and fescues are examples of true grasses. Some are cool season varieties that start early and go dormant in summer, eg. Blue Oat Grass. Warm season grasses flourish in summer, eg Northern Oats.

Grasses can serve a slope stabilizers, are hardy, long-living, can revitalize poor soil and are deer resistant. They spread by runners and by clumping. Anna showed us photos of a wide variety of colour, shape and sizes of grasses. She then went on to show a photo collection of cacti that grow in our climate. They require sandy dry soil and full sun.

Anna offered grasses and cacti for sale.

**BREAK** – We enjoyed Veggie Vittles and had a chance to buy some plants from Anna and new judging books from M.J.

5. Minutes : secretary Dorothy McNytre asked if there were any errors or omissions in the August minutes. There were none. Sandria Garry moved that the minutes be accepted as distributed. Seconded by Nick Case. Carried.

6. Financial Report: M.J. Reported \$3,347. 46 in the operating account and \$ 4,229.22 in the G.I.C. Larry Parsons moved that the financial report be accepted; seconded by Anika Sable. Carried.

7. **Announcements and Correspondence:**

- a) Patty Carlson is the new assistant director of the O.H.A. District 4 board and has offered assistance in our planning for next fall and ongoing to societies in her area.
- b) Please see the poster for the fall seminar on the board. Registration forms will soon be available. Our society will cover the \$25. registration if you attend. See M.J. about that. There is a competition with 3 design classes. We would set up our own table if we participate. Lunch is available with choices of a veggie or chicken dish.
- c) M.J. has the OJES books for sale.
- d) Durham Master Gardeners are presenting Cannabis Mysteries Unveiled October 26 in Oshawa for anyone interested.
- e) Peterborough Master Gardeners are presenting Bulbs for all Seasons.

**COMMITTEE AND EVENTS REPOERTS:**

8. Volunteers are needed for the 2020 Fall Seminar. Please speak to businesses who may offer a donation if they want to advertise. Volunteers can sign up for the following:

- a. Registration desk, b. Greeting and helpers, c. Lunch and refreshments d. Organize an auction or door prize draw, e. Room set up and decoration and flower theme f. Donations for goodie bags.

9. Advertising and Website: Melanie did the poster.

10. Community Gardens: Their is no report. The committee has to decide the colours so the town can coordinate the hanging baskets.

11. Communities in Bloom ; Elinor reported that copies of pictures of the 6 gardens will be circulated . See the poster on the Minden Hills Facebook page. Each community chosen has their own branded poster. Pictures submitted and sent to Nancy will be sent out.

12. Youth Programme: Pat Johnson will consider the proposed changes suggested by Laurie.

13. Village Green: Liz Case – the wood chips have been moved to a place behind the bookstore.

Sonya was concerned that it was causing a problem being piled up against the wall. Larry and his son had helped with the mulch. 1st Tuesday in October is the date for finishing the job.

Liz is looking for one more volunteer this week.

14. T-shirts, Pins and cards: Barb reported that a card has been sent to Larry on the loss of his sister. He thanked the group.

Please let Barb know if you know of anyone who needs a card. Sue Sisson asked that a card be sent to Pam Manser who is at home but quite ill.

There is not yet enough orders for t-shirts. The cost would depend on the quantity.

15. Excursions: Francis- there is nothing planned right now. Larry again invites members to his

trails. There are many interesting fungi to see , and the bugs have died down.

16. Library: Izabel requests that books out on loan be returned.

17. Mini Garden competition: Susan is absent so no report. Sharon reminded us that next month is the final one. Check the yearbook for information. Now is a good time to start preparing.

**O.H.A DISTRICT 4, OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

18. District 4 Fall Seminar in Fenelon Falls, October 26. This is a good opportunity to see how things are managed.

19. Attendance; Nancy reported 29 in attendance with 81 members in total . No new members.

20. Door prize: Two plants donated by the speaker were won by Sandra Beach and Nick Case. A pot of mums was won by Larry Parsons. Congratulations to all three.

21. Adjournment: moved by Rose Paliwada

President Sharon Ireland

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Secretary Dorothy McIntyre

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