

The Weeders Annual Meeting

June 8, 2021

Laura Carpenter's Home

President Karen opened the meeting at 10:00. For the first time in more than a year we met in person, not on Zoom, at Laura Carpenter's home, under a welcoming awning on a hot sunny day. Karen welcomed Cory Tryon, guest of Jen Freyberger; Ruth McKeany, guest of Heather Gallagher; Lia Calhoun, guest of Regina Wagner; Julia Calhoun and Jill Steel, guests of Jackie Burke; and Audrey Kese, guest of Julie De Vuono. She gave a special welcome to Patty Greenhalgh, in attendance at the meeting after too long an absence.

Karen thanked the following people: Laura for graciously opening her home for our meeting; Jackie Burke and Cheryl Cheston for chairing the meeting; hostesses Lloyd Brown, Jeanne May, Diane McCallister, Marty Morse and Ellen Pemberton; and all those who willingly assumed a new position in a year of many challenges.

Karen announced The Weeders, along with individual contributors, are making a donation to the Natural Lands Trust in the name of Weeder Wendy Bailey, who passed away unexpectedly in the spring. This was an organization that was dear to her heart, and, it was felt, a fitting way to remember her. Ellen Pemberton, her sister-in-law, spoke briefly about her in a lovely tribute.

Karen asked for a motion to accept the May Minutes. Ellie Penniman made the motion, Marilyn Sprague seconded, and the motion was approved by the membership.

Treasurer Michele Bolton reiterated that we're in a good position financially. She reminded those who haven't yet sent in their dues to please do so, or to put in the basket with the green bow on the front table, as the deadline is looming! The Treasurer's report was accepted as filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Name tags: Pick them up in the basket on the front table, or let us know if you need one.

Pruning Workshop: To be held on Tuesday, June 15th at Monica Church's home, 71 Steeplechase Road in Devon. The legendary Jim Ward will be in charge.

Horticulture Workshop: Scheduled for Thursday, June 24th at 10:00 at Alice Doering's home. We'll be propagating semi-hardwood cuttings and our own legendary propagator Alice will be in charge!

The Founders Fund winner was Rhododendron Glen: Healing a Historic Stream and Engaging All Ages in Urban Water Ecology, in Seattle, Washington. The Weeders voted for this winner.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Each Committee Chair read her report about the activities of her committee during the past year. They are all contained in the attachment to these Minutes, and will be a welcome addition to any summer reading list! To tantalize, the table of contents and each author follows:

Governance/Nominating – Ellie Penniman

Admissions and Memberships/GCA Bulletin – Marilyn Sprague

Archivist/Historian - Maria Thompson

Christmas Sale/Decorations – Heather Gallagher

Club Flower Show – Jeanne May

Ronald McDonald House – Ellen Pemberton

Strafford Station – Alice Doering

Gazebo Garden/Print and Publications/Trips and Tours – Cheryl Cheston

Hilltop House/Program – Nancy Holmes

Horticulture - Elaine Lisle

Jeanes Library/Scholarship – Sonya Driscoll

Conservation/National Affairs/Fertilizer Fund – Nancy Evans, report read by Karen

Finance – Michele Bolton

Garden History and Design – Diane McCallister

GCA Annual Meeting – Laura Carpenter

Photography – Melissa Bullitt

Scholarship/Hull Award – Sonya Driscoll, Julie DeVuono

Visiting Gardens – Polly Garnett

Website – Taddy Dawson

AWARDS

Jackie Burke announced the recipients of the following awards:

GCA Club Appreciation Award, to Ellyn Spragins

Esther Lloyd Morton Award, posthumously, to Wendy Calhoun

Julie DeVuono announced the winner of the Elizabeth Abernathy Hull Award: Howard Brosius of Chipping Hill Micro Farm.

There were two other awards, not announced, because the recipients were not in attendance at the meeting. They will be given out in September. The citation for each award can be found in the attachment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Karen gave a full review of the year past, noting it's unique challenges and opportunities, expressing heartfelt thanks to all who stepped in to help her figure out her new job, those who agreed to fill in the ranks of unexpectedly vacated officer and committee chair positions and to all of Weederdom for moving so smoothly from in-person meeting mode to the world of electronics, something that didn't come naturally to many of us. She spoke of looking forward to next year and wished everyone a wonderful summer.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Undercofler, Recording Secretary