

Weeders Meeting
April 19, 2022
Jenkins Arboretum

President Karen Shepard convened the business meeting at 10:08 after members shared baked goods and coffee provided by the Meeting Chairs (Ellyn Spragins and Annette Toebe) and Hostesses (Polly Garnett, Gretchen Kiernan and Cheryl Cheston).

Karen introduced two guests: Murfee Aceto was hosted by Annette Toebe and Laura Riedel brought her guest, Linda Schanne.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report had been sent out earlier with the meeting reminder. Michelle Bolton (treasurer) was unable to attend, but she will do a final report in May after reaching out directly to the chairs of each committee.

Announcements

The March minutes were approved

The Sweetwater Valley Flower show will be held October 13-14th in Sewickley, PA and all are invited to attend. The program booklet was shared to the membership

Herb Society of America will host its sale on May 12th from 10am-2 pm

The annual PHS Flower Show will be held once again outdoors in FDR park from June 11-19

Karen Shepard reported that at the Zone 5 Presidents meeting, the suggestion was made to plant sunflowers in support of Ukraine. Members can take pictures of them and share them on the website.

Cheryl Cheston reported that once again there will be a garden tour the week of May 16th showcasing 6-7 gardens of our members in the Devon/Wayne area.

Monica Church reminded everyone of the flower show at the next meeting on May 10th-an option for a pairing of a more seasoned member with a more junior member to make a flower arrangement in an old pair of shoes was discussed.

Nancy Holmes made a bumper crop of mustard which is on sale today

Committee Reports (reports were verbally presented and will be sent as attachments in the June meeting minutes)

Archivist/Historian-no report

Awards-Nancy Holmes is asking for nominations for the Morton Award

Christmas Sale-Heather Gallagher reported

Community Affairs

Gazebo Garden-Cheryl Cheston reported

Hilltop House-Nancy Holmes reported

Ronald McDonald House-Ellen Pemberton reported

Strafford Station-Alice Doering reported

Conservation-Nancy Evans reported and will be included in this month's minutes in attachments

Data Base/Email Manager/Crazy for Containers-Ellyn Spragins reported

Flower Show - No additional report

Founder's Fund/Scholarship/Jeanes Library-Karen Shepard updated for Sonya Driscoll

Garden History and Design-Diane McCallister, nothing to report....but Cheryl Cheston is now chair!

GCA Bulletin, Magnolia Tribute Garde, Membership-Marily Sprague reported

Governance-Ellie Penniman reported concerning the upcoming slate which is included in this month's minutes

Horticulture-Julie Devuono shared tip of the month with regard to trimming hydrangeas

Hull Award-Julie Devuono reported that Barbara Nagle of the Children's Club of Chester received the award

PCGCA Nancy Evans reported on the fertilizer fund

Photography-no report

Print and Communications/Trips and Tours-Cheryl Cheston reported

Program-Laura Carpenter reported

Visitng Gardens-Polly Garnett encouraged Weeders who travel to contact her so she can set up a garden tour in the city in which they visit

Website-no report

The business meeting was adjourned at 11:01 Am, at which point Bill Cullins was introduced as the speaker. He has an illustrious career, serving in a variety of expert roles and writing several books. His presentation, entitled "Conjugal Partners: The remarkable coevolution of flowers and their pollinators" enthralled the listeners and is summed up in this short synopsis.

Flowering plants literally exploded onto the evolutionary stage about 160 million years ago to quickly become the dominant and most diverse group of plants on Earth. Flowering plants owe much of this success to their conjugal partners – the bees, flies, moths, ants, butterflies, birds, and mammals that move pollen from one flower to the next. In this engaging and information-filled talk, we learned how plants use bribery, deception, and the lure of sex to convince these disparate characters to do their bidding.

After the presentation, a group of members embarked on a guided tour of the ephemeral delights in Jenkins Arboretum, led by its director, Tom Smarr.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Gallagher

Weeders Recording Secretary