

Weeders Meeting

February 12, 2013

Waynesborough Country Club

Linda Anderson opened the meeting at 10:05. She thanked Julie DuVuono as meeting Chair and for facilitating our meeting at Waynesborough.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas House Tour - The decorators will consider moving to a new venue, Strawberry Mansion, in 2013. Beth Bartle will be in charge again, and Linda and Beth will meet with a representative there to look over some spaces.

Fertilizer Fund - Sonya Driscoll announced we are in sixth place in donations to this special cause, and asked us to please make a contribution in any amount.

Admissions - Ellen Pemberton said letters of nomination for membership have been received in support of Nancy Miller.

Conservation - Nancy Evans had several announcements. She said she's putting together a recycling book; if anyone has any tips to include, please let her know. She mentioned that Senator Casey has signed a letter to approve the Keystone Tar Sands Pipeline. This will create jobs, but is disastrous for the environment. If you oppose it, please consider writing a letter to him. Finally, she reported that a commonly used pesticide, Clothianidin, may be responsible for hive collapse, according to some research.

Horticulture - Diane McCallister reported that fungus problems still plague impatiens, so don't plant them this year. Some alternatives would be coleus, caladium and begonia. She encouraged us to plant more natives. At a plant conference she attended, there was a discussion about eradicating noxious weeds and a suggestion that the use of Round-Up might be appropriate in difficult cases.

Photography Show - Melissa Bullitt reminded us of the upcoming Photography Show. The deadline for entries is March 11th and they will all be displayed at the meeting on March 12th.

Flower Show – Ellen Pemberton and Cindy Pierce are entering the Flower Show; also entering are Beth Bartle and Sidney Spahr, of another club. Susan Roberts and Dixie Chapman will also be involved with the Show.

March Meeting - Jackie Burke said one more hostess is needed for the meeting, which will be held in the evening. If you can help out, please let her know.

PEOPLE

Polly Garnett - Congratulations on being named Volunteer of the Year for the Hardy Plant Society!

Lloyd Brown - Congratulations on being named incoming Zone V Director to GCA!

Sonya Driscoll and Diana Mason - Our sympathies to you both as members of the Weeder Broken Wrist Society.

PROGRAM

Julie De Vuono introduced our speaker, Paul van Meter, whose topic was *Viaduct Green*

Plans/Philadelphia's High Line. He is a landscape gardener whose work ranges from intimate private to expansive public places. His studies of urbanism, landscape design, ethics and management, railroad history and culture have collided in his co-founding of Viaduct Green. This fledgling organization is focused on taking abandoned elevated railroad lines in Philadelphia and turning them into walkways planted on either side in as natural a way as possible, an idea taken from New York City's High Line. In Philadelphia, we have a number of miles of the abandoned elevated tracks of the former Reading Railroad as it enters center city and heads for the old train shed, now the Convention Center. His slide show began with photos of urban environments, illustrating the use of buildings as the structural elements, and combining that with the use of a wilder planting palette, including prairie elements, grasses, bulbs and, always, keeping seasonal color in mind. This is an easily managed environment, but there are many issues with a project of this nature that need to be resolved. After his presentation, he took the time for questions and answers.

Linda adjourned the meeting at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Lesley Undercofler, Recording Secretary