

Minutes of Russell and District Horticultural Society Meeting

Monday, March 18th, 2019

Meeting was called to order with approximately 45 people in attendance.

The following guests were welcomed: Lorna, Jane, Doreen, Nina and Shirley.

It was moved by Louise Houle and seconded by Marie-Claire Ivanski to accept the minutes of the February 2019 meeting as presented.

Louise Houle thanked everyone for entering the March Flower Show – with the following categories:

1. Mardi Gras! An arrangement using fresh flowers with accessories such as feathers, beads, jewelry, egg shells etc.;
2. Emerald Isle. Small (5 to 10 inches) mostly green arrangement using foliage/herbs;
3. Equinox. 2 containers, the same, except for bloom colour.

All in attendance were encouraged to vote for their favourites in each category.

Reminders:

“100 Trees for 100 Years” project to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Russell Horticultural Society. The Society will be making a 30% donation to any card carrying member of the Society towards the purchase of any of the trees or shrubs listed on the website and purchased from Beyond the House in Russell. This offer is only available until the end of March.

Louise also reminded everyone of “March It On Out” on March 23rd and encouraged all to bring items on Friday (the 22nd of March) from 4:30-7:30 to St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Once again this year, price of admission is \$10 per person and there is no limit to the amount of new found treasures you can take home. She also encouraged those with large items to take a photo of the object and place that photo on the bulletin board at the sale with your contact information. No baby items, hazardous waste, etc. will be allowed. There will be no holding area this year. Items must be taken to their vehicle. Attendees can then return for more items. Make sure your hand is stamped to allow readmittance. All left-over items will be picked up by the Diabetes Society at the end of the day. Hangers are needed to display the clothing. Workers are required on Friday from 4:30-7:00 and 7:00-9:00 and on Saturday from 7:30-10:30 and 10:30 to 2:30. Please let Louise know if you can help during any of these times.

Everyone was reminded of the District 1 – Annual General Meeting to be held on April 13th at Greyhawk Golf Course on Boundary Road. Registration fees are \$25. These fees will be covered by the Horticultural Society as well as the cost of the lunch. But if you sign up to attend and don't show, you must reimburse the Society. The title of the competitions for the event is "Sex in the Garden".

Ontario Horticultural Society Convention (for all of Ontario) will be held July 19th to 21st in Windsor, Ontario. If you are interested in attending, please complete the registration form found on line. Lindley McPhail and Carole VanDie are attending and will be flying. For those wishing to attend, the Russell Horticultural Society – Education Fund will cover the cost of registration (\$150 – early registration; \$180 – late registration) as well as the \$61 for the Friday Pub Night and the \$62 for the Saturday Night Awards Banquet.

Marie-Claire Ivanski has 6 tickets to the Home and Garden Show this weekend – March 22nd to 24th for anyone who is interested. These tickets are compliments of Joanne Clemens our local Re-Max Realtor. Marie-Claire encouraged all those attending the Show to visit the amazing display by our very own Beyond the House.

Jacqueline Wyss reported on the Russell Horticultural Society website. John Jackson has offered to be of assistance with the facebook page. Jacqueline said that emails could be directed to info@russellgardeners.com. She reported that the OHA website would be active in April. They have formed a social media committee and will be offering very interesting projects such as a You-Tube channel. All were encouraged to check it out.

Grace Stapper reported that each Society was asked to bring a pollinator hotel to the Annual General Meeting in April. Our Society's hotel was on display and Grace asked members to help name it. The pollinator hotels will be put in the silent auction as a fundraiser for the Gloucester Society

Our guest for the evening was Heidi Oeschger who gave a very interesting demonstration on floral arranging. Heidi is very well known in both Russell and Ottawa. She is a local master florist who has been working in this field since 1988 after receiving her training in Switzerland. These beautiful arrangements were later raffled off to the attendees.

Many thanks to Elizabeth for providing the refreshments for the evening.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Johnston, Secretary, Russell Horticultural Society