

BRIAR CHAPEL GARDEN CLUB
MEETING NOTES

April 10, 2018

Liz Rolison called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. She reminded members to raise their hands and introduce themselves before speaking.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT (Stacey Donelan)

Currently there are 69 member households; 105 members. Next year, the membership drive will be held earlier in the season.

FINANCIAL REPORT (Jean Holstein)

Account Balance = \$4,615.44 (Includes \$1728.23 carryover)
Expenses were \$1,091.76, mostly for planting and engineering.
All checks should be given to Jean.
A reminder was given to file tax statement by May 15.

BYLAWS

47 households voted. The Bylaw revision passed unanimously. The club Bylaws are now official and will be posted on the club website. Jean will take a copy of the new Bylaws document to the bank.

PLANTING REPORT (Laurie Leichman)

The beds are ready for spring planting. The grass is tilled out and soil amendment has been applied. Sue Pflum will lead a demo lesson this week at 10:00 at Boulder and next week at Briar Patch. A big planting day is scheduled for the last Saturday of April. All dates are posted on the website and emails will be sent.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST (Jim Neill and Dan Taylor)

Four or five more volunteers are needed. Jim did not receive any of the email responses and will send out another email.

There is a link to register and prepay on the website. No flyers were distributed this year.

Two griddles are needed and a third may be needed. A discussion as to whether or not there would be a gluten free option this year. Robin Salmani volunteered to make 25 gluten free pancakes.

Consensus was to extend an invitation to Management staff. Liz will send an invitation.

Since the breakfast is the same day as the garage sale, there may be more attendees.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT (Liz Rolison)

April 30 — Tour of Paz Farm (10:00 a.m.) The tour can accommodate 15 people. 13 members have signed up. A second tour can be scheduled if there is further interest.

May 5 — Pancake Breakfast

May 19 — Bocce Ball in Boulder (5:00 - 7:30 p.m.) Stacey presented team options. The event can accommodate 32 people. A paid entry fee that would fund a winner's pot was discussed. It was decided the event would be free. Participants are to bring their own drink and a snack to share. There will be four players to a team. Rules will be sent out.

July — Dan Taylor will provide a cooking class to demonstrate fresh ideas for cooking with vegetables from the harvest. Dan will give Liz available dates for scheduling.

September — The club will reserve the entire clubhouse for an event with Brie Arthur, local garden expert, who also helped design the entrance to Briar Chapel. Brie's presentation will include fragrance in the garden and keeping deer out of the garden. She asks that the club make a \$200 donation to the Chapel Hill Botanical Garden in lieu of her customary fee of \$2000. This presentation will be open to all residents of Briar Chapel. No fee will be required, and the event will serve as a recruiting opportunity for the club. Possible dates include September 29 (preferred option), September 22, or a date in October. — Leila McKay and Sandi Friedman will chair the Pansy and Mum Sale.

October — The Annual Harvest Dinner celebration will be held in October. Members will bring food. Liz and Val will chair.

November/December — Poinsettia Sales — Marsha Durniak and Leila McKay will chair.

EARTH DAY

Val will provide a child-centered activity table. Milkweed and Eastern Columbine seeds will be available for planting. There will be pictures of Monarch Butterflies and Hummingbirds for the children to color. Maps of their migratory areas will be on display. Volunteers are needed for two shifts, 4:00 to 5:30 and 5:30 to 7:00.

The Children's Garden in the Briar Patch will be planted on April 21. Ellen Cuttler will read The Diary of A Worm to the children. Children will plant seeds. The teepee needs flat rocks about the size of an adult fist. Val is asking members to leave them in the Children's Garden if you have any to donate.

ENGINEERING REPORT (Larry Pflum)

Larry provided an irrigation update. Materials can be purchased to replace all areas for under \$100 in both gardens. Irrigation can be replaced in all ground beds. There are plenty of supplies on hand. Two to four people will be needed. Larry will reach out to the Engineering Committee.

There is a rabbit problem. 600 feet of chicken wire 2-feet high will be needed. A workday will be planned to install the chicken wire around both gardens

The donated tiller has always been cumbersome to use. It has been repaired.

The Chapel Hill grit pathways are overrun with weeds. A propane powered weed torch has been purchased to burn the weeds. It will be used only in the paths. Industrial vinegar is too caustic to use. Jean asked how to protect the Fig Tree.

THIRD GARDEN (Liz Rolison)

It is time to consider expanding the garden club to include a third garden space. A small committee will be formed to work with Management and perhaps Newland. The committee will include Liz Rolison, Paul Gross, Mike Gorman, Jean Holstein. Billie Baker will serve as consultant to the group.

Val mentioned her interest in providing an additional children's garden. Perhaps it could be located adjacent to a new garden space.

ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEM

Sue Pflum presented sample laminated garden stake labels.

A motion was made, and seconded to reimburse Sue for the materials. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

UPDATES SINCE THE MEETING:

- The rabbit fencing has been installed at Boulder and half of Briar Patch is now completed.
- An invitation to the Pancake Breakfast has been extended to Management.
- Dan Taylor's cooking class is scheduled for July 28, from 1:00 to 3:00, at the clubhouse.
- The Harvest Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 20, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the clubhouse.