

**Briar Chapel Garden Club (BCGC) Meeting Minutes  
October 12, 2021**

**In-person meeting on Clubhouse Porch and via Zoom. Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by co-president Rick Thompson.**

**Membership report by Marie Rape:**

- Members reminded that dues for 2021-22 need to be paid by November if want to vote in upcoming election of leadership for club.
- Rick will send an email reminder to club membership to remind them to pay dues
- 2 families paid membership dues at meeting (1 was a new member)

**Election of New BCGC Officers for 2022**

- Mike made a motion to move the nominations of new officers to the Nov 2021 meeting. Marci seconded the motion. The members voted and the motion passed.
- Because Marie Rape (secretary) will be out of town on date of next scheduled meeting (11/9), the meeting will be moved to Monday, 11/8/21.

**Presentation by Susan Hardy, Chatham Council on Aging**

- Peaceful Pathways Project at NE Chatham Park off Big Woods Road. This project is for people with dementia and their caregivers. Provides a peaceful place with several raised garden beds.
- The project has established the beds with soil and has a theme for each bed, with perennials in 1 of 6 colors that will bloom throughout the year.
- Request that garden clubs in the area adopt one raised bed. The plants will be provided, club only needs to put them in the ground, water and maintain beds throughout the year.
- Liz made a motion for the BCGC to adopt a bed, Mike seconded the motion, and the members all agreed, motion passed. Choose the Sapphire theme bed.
- Marci will be the point person with Susan at Council on Aging (919-542-2512 ext. 231) and liaison with small group who will arrange workdays.
- A dedication by Teppa Snow (author of book on which peaceful pathways is based) is scheduled for Thursday, Nov 4<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

**September Finance Report by Scott Kizer:**

- Flower sale (pansy and mums) was very successful
- Net income for September \$1,570.09
- Current balance \$5,254.54 (of note, balance in Jan 2021 was \$5,615)
- Scott lost excel on computer for managing finances, may recommend we pay for Office program with excel for his Mac if unable to find a free version to download

**Liz reported on the Plant Sale:**

- Thanks go to Amber Umble who dealt with flower vendor
- > \$2500 worth of flowers sold resulting in \$1097.88 in profit for the club.
- The plant sale went smoothly except for 2 orders that didn't go through completely and thus weren't really placed. Able to give one of them some extra flowers.
- Majority of buyers were from outside of the club
- Delivered a few plants to the buyer's home when they forgot to go pick up the flowers.
- Advertised by signs and email and newsletter announcements

### **Planting Report by Rick and Sue**

- We need another workday. Rick will organize one for either 10/23 or 24. He will send out an email announcement. Need clean up / shred a lot of debris at both gardens.
- Sue has performed soil testing at both gardens. They are both a bit high in phosphorus, adding nitrogen and fertilizing to bring it down.
- We might consider pulling up the black cloth and put down turnip seeds to grow over winter and help soil turn over
- Might consider if we should pull out stakes and till all soil in beds, would need a stake puller.
- Some raised bed boards are rotting, falling apart. As this is considered infrastructure, need to talk to First Residential to ask them to address the issues, add the improvements to the budget.
- In the future, the raised flower bed in Briar Patch will be just perennials, the Zinnias will be moved to the perimeter only.
- Report of fire ants in strawberries, Sue will put organic fire ant product on the hills.

### **Compost**

- Mike reports that the compost is doing really well now, getting hot and breaking down well.
- Need to replace the signs for compost stages at Boulder.

### **Minutes prepared by Marie Rape, BCGC Secretary**