The Mt Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club met at 1:00 p.m., Jan 11, 2018 at the home of Marilyn Berkut. Twelve members were present and one guest, Gilda Allen’s cousin, Carolyn Williams.

Program: Claudia Raskin, Executive Director of Community Support Systems (CSS) and member of the Food Equity Council. Claudia opened her program with a video of Clint Smith reciting his poem “Place Matters” which led into her presentation on “Food Deserts.”

She explained that food deserts exist in communities where there are a lack of (1) supermarkets that sell fresh fruits and vegetables (2) transportation to supermarkets and (3) affordability of such items. She offered several solutions, such as hiring food trucks, providing healthier options at fast food stores, expanding food pantries and starting community gardens.

The meeting convened at 1:42 p.m. with Esther Neckere thanking the hostess and extending birthday wishes to Iona Black-Jan and belated wishes for Connie Dalpar and Lucille Gwynn-Dec.

Horticulture: Esther brought an arrangement of Nandina with berries from her garden.

Membership: Elaine thanked the guest for attending our meeting.

Ways and Means: Linda Millette asked members to think about items to sell at the Surratt

House Event in June. She will check if baked goods can be sold. (*Homemade baked goods can be sold if the ingredients are labeled on the container.en)* Esther suggested selling garden gloves that can be bought for $2.98 and sold for $6.00. It would require, however, up front money to make the initial purchase.

Fund Raiser: The Fall bulb sale was a success. Members were given a brochure for spring bulbs and asked to bring form and money to our next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pam Smart reminded us that the meeting next month will be at the Chapel of the Incarnation on Brandywine Road and the program will be “How to Start an Organic Edible Garden.” Volunteers providing refreshments are asked to come early. She also went over the sites for the Maryland House and Garden Tour. They are: Chapel of the Incarnation, William Early House, Connick’s Folly, Romano Vineyard & Winery, William’s House, P. A. Bowen Home and Farm, and St Mary’s/St Paul’s Church. Flower arrangers are: Linda Millette, Pat Hall, Julie Harrison and Elaine Arnold.

NEW BUSINESS:

Esther commented on the delicious food members brought to the Christmas Pot Luck and asked for a volunteer to compile the recipes.

The flower sale will be held at Julie’s house on the first Saturday in May.

Elaine Arnold won the 50/50.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30. Respectfully submitted, Iona Black, Secretary

The 50/50 was won by Elaine Arnold

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