Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

May 13, 2021

Minutes

Start time for the meeting was 12:30 p.m.

During our hospitality time, Dot Lower gave the testimonial. She grew up next to farmland. Her mom worked in the yard a lot and got Dot to help her. When she married and got her own home, she knew flowers made a house a home. Dot became a member of our club in 2002. She has enjoyed being a member and meeting new members.

Program: Alison Pearce, Deputy Director of the Audubon Naturalist Society, talked about native plants that thrive in the sun. She referenced the North American Plant Atlas and explained the map color key. Plants that flourish in full or part sun include: black-eye-susans, goldenrods, monardas (bee balm), lobelias (cardinal flowers), milkweed, baptisia (wild indigo), ferns, sedges and grasses, shrubs, and flowering vines (passion flower). Alison addressed some very interesting questions after her presentation.

She also mentioned the Native Plant Sale at Woodend Sanctuary May 21-23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Her organization offers consultation services and recommendations for your garden.

Roll Call: What is your favorite sun plant?

Present: Gilda Allen, Elaine Arnold, Iona Black, Connie Dalpra, Arminta Donovan, Julie Harrison, Lorraine Leonard, Dot Lower, Linda Millette, Diana Morse, Pam Smart, Mary Woodruff

Absent: Marilyn Berkut, Deborah Determan, Lucille Gwynn, Esther Neckere, Carol Ober

April minutes were approved as submitted

**REPORTS:**

**Civic Development**: Pam invited members to go by the Holloway Park garden and see the beautiful azaleas and the triple bloom day lilies. She also mentioned that members could also pull a few weeds while there.

**Conservation Education**: Lorraine read a postcard referencing yard waste and table scrapes. You can sign up on line and receive a bin specifically for yard waste and table scrapes. Contact her for additional information.

**Corresponding Secretary/Sunshine**: Arminta sent a get-well card to Mary Woodruff and birthday cards to Mary Beth and Diana.

**Design**: Lorraine showed us former member Sonia Johnson’s amaryllis flower in a stem glass and a bouquet of flowers from her garden. Her advice was before you buy, look in your own garden – you might be amazed at what you can find.

**Horticulture:** Julie continued from last month with informative articles from the magazine Birds and Bloom. She dispelled gardening myths. A few included: (1) Instead of putting tomatoes on a sunny window sill to ripen, wrap them in newspaper and place in a cool basement. Mix ripe and unripe tomatoes together for faster results. (2) Don’t use cardboard as a weed barrier because it impedes water saturation. And (3) Don’t water plants daily because roots will grow close to the surface.

**Newsletter**: Mary reminded members that we need articles and pictures. She has pictures of the courtyard of the high school where Linda she is working and pictures of our garden at Holloway Park.

**Financial Report**: Dot reported all bills are paid and our balance is $1,602.57. No bank fee this month because of the balance in our account. All dues were paid.

**Tech Committee**: Diana asked members to use our website!

**Website**: No report

**Updates:**

NCAGC new officers were installed April 27th to begin 2-year term May 1st.

Arlene Stewart – President

Estelle Noone – District I Director

District I meeting is the last Saturday in June

**Old Business**: None

**New Business:**

Each club is to submit a “Best Program of the Year” to District I. We discussed some possibilities. It was noted that the submission form was 11 pages long and has to be submitted to NCAGC by May 15th.

Spring and summer activities: Organize on your own and STAY SAFE!!!!

Meeting ended: 2:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Iona J. Black

Secretary