Dunbarton Garden Club Meeting Agenda – October 12, 2026, 6:30pm
Dunbarton Library, 1011 School Street

Current # of Members: 51	Quorum: 17	# in attendance: 24

Minutes documented by: Dawna Vaughan, VP.
Meeting Theme: A Ghoul in the Garden
Wear: think spooky or Halloween themed

Activity: House Plant Swap! Several options were provided by members to share and exchange.

<u>Agenda Topics:</u>

Review September meeting notes and treasurer report

- Motion to approve notes: Jo Hendry. Second Margaret Tomas. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report reviewed by Ema Chapman

- Motion to approve report: Bob Lamarque. Second Tom Cusano. Motion passed.

Mum Sale Review

- Ema C provided review of final sales numbers from the mum sale.
- Total net sales: $44,429.17
- Expenses: $29,981.69
- Approximate Net Profit, in progress (last few pending sales to be added): $14,447.48
- So far Citizens Bank has not taken out any fees (historically charged a fee when depositing large amounts of cash).
- Discussion around the end of the mum sale: there were approx. 1200 plants left over on the Sunday of the mum sale; Page's corner was kind enough to continue selling plants for us, gaining an additional $7k.

One year secretary term

- This position will be open for a 1 year term after December 2026. The role and expectations were reviewed with the membership.

Town clean up/divide perennials

- Thanks to those who have continued doing some town common clean-up.
- Date for the club-wide garden cleanup: 9am Sunday October 18.

Bylaws

- Any change to the bylaws will include involvement of the state. All members are called "directors" per the state guidelines. Karen offered to sit with everyone on the current board in order to support reviewing what's there and any changes that can/should be made.

Website and Email discussion:

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- Some gsi and gsc email addresses, emails are getting kicked back and not delivered. Brief discussion of using Wix to create an email domain; this was explored in the past but not utilized due to fees, limited storage, etc. Carrie & Dawna to explore further to see if we can get updated pricing and limits to report back.

Halloween prep:

- Pack candy at the Larsen household (32 Birchview Drive) Wednesday 10/28 at 1pm.
- Be a witch at the Bandstand - 10/31 at 5-8pm
- Special request from PTO for Trunk or Treat attendees - they are asking for more folks to set up trunk or treat stations. Folks will sign up directly with the PTO or Rec committee.
- Karen brought up that the Rec committee/PTO has recently reached out to her, indicating that they are looking for her to set up all of the Cusanos Halloween decorations; Carrie to follow up with Kristine Flythe re: reiterate that per discussions over the last few years, garden club is pulling back from this responsibility but allowing the decorations to be available to rec committee for putting up. Questions: is Rec going to get stuff in advance and set it up? If so, they will need selectman approval.
- We will think of this as the Bandstand being the garden club's "trunk"
- Roots club will be carving jack-o-lanterns to display on the library front steps, club members are welcome to bring down their own and Sharon will put lights in them. Bob will collect them after Halloween. Pumpkins are placed out the day before Halloween.

Committee Updates

- Scholarship Language was adjusted based on the approval at the last meeting.
    - Criteria: The scholarship is open to applicants who are attending an institute of higher learning to study and/or connect their area of study to the following: horticulture, agriculture, floriculture, botany, environmental sciences, forestry, plant sciences, garden history and design, landscape architecture, pollinator research, conservation, ecological restoration or other field related to environmental improvements, biology, ecology, earth science, oceanography, geology, chemistry, astronomy, meteorology and climate change.
    - New language: <u>Award recipients may reapply for the scholarship in future years, provided they remain enrolled and continue to meet the eligibility requirements. All awards are contingent on the availability of Dunbarton Garden Club funding.</u>
    - Nora suggests that this gets advertised in Facebook, Bow Times, and through the library newsletter. Could also ask Line to put the information on the town website. All of these places for the next 5 months. Nora states she will work on getting a flyer into the glass case outside the town office.
- Cheer: the rest of the thank you cards have been sent out following the mum sale
- Historian: The flash drive has been received with the digitized documents. Sharon is still going back-and-forth with the company re: a storage fee that they have charged us.

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Open Discussion

- The tree that was planted cost the town $1300. There was discussion around whether the garden club should have offered to purchase and/or plant the tree.
- A question about planting garlic. Advise from members: plant it now, mulch it over the winter. Fertilize it well (bloodmeal or 10-10-10 fertilizer).
- A motion was put forth to receive pricing to get a shipping container for DGC storage at town shed, and for club board to check with selectmen re: allowing the storage space at the town road shed. Motion by Margaret Tomas, second by Liz Sprague. The motion passes.
- Plant swap.
- Motion to adjourn by Bob Lamarque. Second, Karen Cusano. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 8:18pm.

Important Upcoming Dates

- Oct Town Garden Clean up 10/18 at 9am
- October Candy Bagging 10/28 at 1pm
- Drop off your pumpkin 10/30 on front library steps
- Oct 31 - Trick or Treating on the Town Common 5pm to 8pm (seeking witches for candy bagging and handing out, other inquiries may be sent to Kristine Flythe)
- November meeting 11/9, includes a winter seed sowing activity before the meeting
- December year end party 12/14.