

Miller Garden Club General Meeting – June 21, 2014

Karin Crane called the meeting to order.

Corya Channing presented garden walk posters and post cards, which are available for distribution. She invited members to take packages of advertising materials and deliver them to specified locations grouped by geographic area.

The Garden Club outing to Lavender Hill farm is planned for June 28. Club members will meet at the Aquatorium between 9:30 and 10:00 am and car-pool to the farm.

Mike Nowak has been signed up as the guest speaker for the winter wine and cheese social on January 17, and he is expected to attract a large audience. Jack Tonk suggested making this a fund-raising event.

A "Gardening 102" class will be scheduled in February. Its agenda has not yet been determined.

Jack Tonk reviewed the status of the club treasury. The application for 501-C-3 status for the club is proceeding. Jack is still working to recreate the financial record for 2010.

Laura Demchuck recapped the results of the May plant sale, with thanks for all the people involved who had worked long hours in the cold on Friday evening. Happily, the sale brought in even more money than the previous year. Karin Crane has taken in substantial additional income selling left-over plants at the Miller Beach Farmers Market on Sundays. These sales will continue until the first week of July.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The annual Miller Garden Walk will take the place of the regular July meeting.

The garden club is planning an outing to the Pond Society garden walk, which involves a number of dispersed locations. The cost for attending is \$5.

The Club is considering a September outing to the Pinhook Bog or to the Morton Arboretum.

T-SHIRTS

Bernie Bonk announced that the pre-ordered Miller Garden Club T-shirts have arrived for people to pick up at the end of the meeting. She noted that she can order more shirts in batches of at least 25 shirts.

Jack Tonk added that there are about 9 embroidered aprons left, which will be on sale at the Garden Walk.

COMMUNITY GARDENS

We are keeping the community gardens under control with a program of "weed, mulch, and move on". Dawn Vanzo is getting the corner spaces planted, than passing them on for maintenance. Bernie Bonk needs to know what bulbs are needed for planting in the corner plots this fall. She would also like to know what plants die and would need to be replaced. She noted that we can get mums at a price of 3 for \$10 in the fall.

Club members will be spreading mulch in the gardens on Friday afternoons from 3 to 6 pm.

PUBLICITY

Joanne Stratton asked members to report to her any instances where they see information about the Garden Club in local publications. She wants to know whether her news releases are getting to the public.

The Garden Club will be receiving a commendation from Mayor Freeman-Wilson on June 28 at the Clean Water event. Although many club members will be on the way to Lavender Hill Farm, we will have someone on hand to accept the award.

Marty Bohn reminds members that she needs information for the Garden Club newsletter at the end of each month.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Crete garden walk is scheduled for June 24 and 25.

Ruth Needleman has invited garden club members to stop by her home on Shelby Street and view her garden.

Dawn Vanzo has purchased sedums to replace ailing plants in wreaths members have made.

GARDEN WALK

Cleo Brown needs a couple more docents.

A sign-up sheet is being circulated for "gardening angels". Volunteers will meet at Carmella's Café on Friday morning, July 11.

A sign-up sheet is also being passed around for the "thank God it's over" dinner on July 13. If there are questions or changes about the dinner, contact Carol at 938-8129.

Dawn Vanzo will be manning a Garden Club booth at the garden walk.

There will be 3 mini-busses for the Garden Walk, each of which accommodates about 15 passengers. We may also want to have golf carts to move people up and down the hill from Garden 5.

Garden Walk tickets are available to members in groups of 10. The money or returned tickets need to be turned in by July 7. We are printing more tickets this year, since we ran out last year.

The garden walk preview, for the benefit of volunteers working at the event, will be held, as usual, from 5 to 7 pm on Friday, July 11. Karin Crane announced that the wine and cheese social that follows the preview will be held this year at the Gardner Center, where the Miller Arts District will be kicking off an exhibit of paintings and photos by local artists. The show, featuring flowers and plants, will continue until August 8. The suggested donation will be \$10.

RECAP OF GARDEN WALK EVENTS:

Friday, July 11	Gardening Angels at work in the morning Garden preview for volunteers –5:00 to 7:00 pm Gardner Center exhibit opening – 7:00 to 9:00
Saturday, July 12	Garden Walk – 9:00 to 3:00
Sunday, July 13	Bike walk – 10:30 each day
Sunday, July 13	Post-walk dinner – 6:00

MISCELLANEOUS.

Cleo Brown will make reminder calls to all docents.

Patricia Gonzales noted that each docent should visit his/her assigned garden the week before. Last-minute volunteers will find work to do the weekend of the walk.

Pat Pelky noted that we have 11 vendors returning from last year, plus 3 new vendors.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Eaton