**FAIRBANKS GARDEN CLUB LUNCHEON MEETING OF 11-16-16**

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The November luncheon meeting was opened at 12 noon by Co-president Christine Page with Co-president Annette Eddy supporting. In attendance were 37 FGC members. On arrival, money was collected from members who wished to participate in the craft workshop and/ or the December Christmas luncheon.

Also in attendance was Ruth Ecker-Kenworthy, Metro District Chair of the GCFM. Welcome to all.

A wonderful luncheon and beautiful flower centerpiece was provided by November’s hospitality hostess and committee members. Luncheon was enjoyed by all.

Minutes of the 10-19-16 accepted by attendees.

Christine Page. Co-President, noted of the large amount of food donated at this meeting for the Dedham Food Pantry. Thank you all for your generosity.

Christine P. Introduced Ms. Ecker-Kenworthy to the members. Ms. Ecker-Kenworthy said that she visits all the metro district garden clubs throughout the year. She stated that FGC was so lucky to have such a very beautiful venue for our meetings and that she was very envious. She reinforced the goals of the GCFM which are to promote gardening in the communities, share meetings and knowledge and to support each other. MS Ecker-Kenworthy hoped to see us at the April 13 GCFM annual luncheon program and unsung hero awards. It is a great time for all of us to meet other members of the federation.

**Committee High-lighting**

As part of our high-lighting of our various committees, Christine P. introduced Mary Geary, Chair of the Membership Committee. Mary walked us through the procedure of this committee welcoming new members to the FGC. There are several steps for the membership committee in doing this, such as an application being filled out, contact with the applicant, to presenting the new member with a lovely plant as a symbol of welcome. At this time we have 50 members with a waiting list of potential members. Mary said that there is room for members to join this committee. The next committee to be high-lighted was Publicity, chaired by Carol Cook.

Carol’s responsibilities are to put any information that might be of interest to the public in the local newspaper. She will take and submit pictures of any noteworthy event that the FGC is involved in such as the plant sale and the wreath decorating. Carol will also inform the newspaper of any special guests the club might be hosting. Carol also distributes flyers of our special events. She is also doing research of awards for our club from the GCFM. We need some old and new pictures of the Al Blood Garden so they can be submitted with the application. If anyone has any pictures to please let Carol know so that the people that have worked so hard on this beautiful garden can be recognized. Anyone that is interested in helping Carol in this committee please let her know.

**Christmas Luncheon**

Annette O’Shea spoke next regarding the Christmas luncheon being held at the Old Colonial Restaurant on Dec. 14, 2016, at 11 am. There are 29 members signed up to attend so far. If you intend on going to the lunch please sign up. There will also be a Yankee Swap if you wish to participate. All this information can be found on the website.

**Wreath decorating workshop**

Carol Dixon, Chair of Garden Therapy/Horticulture spoke about the next group fun event taking place. It will be the wreath decorating event being held at the Endicott Green House on Thurs. Dec. 8, 2016 beginning at 9:30am.This is a wonderful group event and a lot of fun for all, please sign up. The wreaths always turn out beautiful and they are very appreciated by the recipients as well as anyone in town that sees them.

**Annette Eddy, Co-President, regarding future luncheons**

Annette E. said that no food (sandwiches and/or desserts) can be brought into the Endicott Estate per the town of Dedham through town council. There was a discussion with many ideas and some objections. Our options were: 1. Pay for the lunches by members, 2. Brown bag it, and 3. Just have desserts. Our 501c3 status had to be considered as did the cost to members.

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After discussion by all in attendance, it was decided that we would have a vote at this time. The vote would be to continue the lunch with desserts for $10.00 a year per member. This seemed the best option when members were asked.

Carol D. stated that we follow parliamentary procedure so she made the motion that we (members) pay $10.00 a year for sandwiches and desserts. Mary Joyce seconded this motion. Some open discussion. Annette O. stated that $10.00 a year for sandwiches and desserts was a very good deal and wood save time for anyone on the hospitality comm. for the month. This would stream-line everything.

**Voting**

The voting then took place by all members in attendance as:

23 Yes votes for $10.00 per year per member

6 Opposed

6 Abstained

Yes for sandwiches and desserts for $10.00 per year per member going forward.

**Holiday season workshop**

After the voting we began our beautiful holiday season centerpieces under the guidance of Annette E., Carol C. and Joan H. This was a lot of fun and the centerpieces turned out beautiful to be enjoyed for years to come.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Rose M. Favret, Secretary, Fairbanks Garden Club