

Russell Horticultural Society Meeting Minutes – March 21st, 2022

Our secretary was absent. Danielle Munroe volunteered as minute taker.

Grace welcomed everyone and noted we had many new members. There were about 50 members present.

Our junior horticultural program is setting up for the season with 2 leaders. Julie K. will be our liaison with the junior program.

Our district #1 AGM, on April 23rd will be in Williamstown. We have 10 members registered and the cost will be covered by our Society. Members can also sign up for the Zoom Option.

Cindy Saucier, township councillor and member of the Environmental Advisory Comm., will request Russell township to proclaim 2022 'Year of the Garden'. This is a national celebration of our horticultural sector.

Canadian Garden Council may have flags to promote the event. Check their website for availability. Remember to Plant Red and show your Canadian pride

March 21st (today) is International Day of Forests and it raises awareness of how important our forests are. Ecology Ottawa will be giving away 20,000 free saplings this spring. South Nation Conservation authority will also be offering tree give aways. These trees are for planting on private property.

The society directors met to plan/organize upcoming 2022. Yearbook development will be headed by Jacquelin and Pegi. All submissions must be sent to Pegi by end of March. Volunteers were requested: 1. to research and inform about fundraising opportunities and grants available, 2. to ensure promotion of our society/memberships via Russell fair booth, Russell Community Market, Metcalfe Farmers Market etc. Sign-up sheet was provided.

Louise spoke about the plant sale – Sat. May long weekend – 8 am to 12 noon – 7:30 drop off of plants – signup sheet was available. Yard sale tables featuring gardening related items will be there. Items to be taken home by the donor if not sold.

Louis outlined the day trips, workshops and garden tours planned for the year.

Registration forms will be available next month. People must pre-register for workshops and submit the fee. Details will be included in the Yearbook.

Seed storage container provided to each member. Fill them with collected seeds and they can be sold at plant sale.

Everyone was encouraged to view and take items from the swap table that was set up.

Next meeting – April 25th, 2022 (the fourth Monday). Grace will present: "An Iris to match almost every gardening situation"

Charles shared that on, April 22nd the OHA will host an Earth Day celebration via WebEx. All OHA members are welcomed to join. First come, first served basis on the account. Login info will be shared to all societies on Apr. 15.

An interesting presentation, Forcing Tulips, was made by Al and Manja, owners of Green Corners U-Pick Tulip Farm in Edwards, ON where they grow 350,000 tulip bulbs

Carole Van-Die thanked the speakers