

Horticultural Society Meeting
Monday, June 20th, 2022
Held in Community Hall, Marionville, ON

President, Grace Stapper welcomed everyone. There were approximately 38 people in attendance. A motion was made by Marianne Vedder to accept the minutes of the March meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Linda Duhamel.

All were encouraged to view and vote on the lovely floral arrangements on display.

Grace mentioned that a Québec company has come up with a new bread clip made of cardboard (normally made of plastic to secure the bread bag). There is 1500 kilograms of polystyrene sent to landfills every day in Canada. Changes like this will certainly be great for the environment.

Grace thanked everyone who helped with the annual plant sale that was held at MacDougall Park on May 21st. A total of \$2,991.75 was raised for the Society through the sale of plants and plant related garage sale items. Special thanks to the Environmental Science students lead by teacher Ann Jackson of St. Thomas Aquinas High School who sold plants that added to the profit.

Grace reminded everyone to be sure to keep track of their volunteer hours spent working on any project for the Horticultural Society which would include the potting of plants, working at the plant sale including clean-up. These hours are required to receive our grant money.

Reports:

Julie Keravel, Director assigned to the Junior Program, reported on the Junior Horticultural Society. She was happy to report that there is a new volunteer by the name of Genevieve helping Laura. The plants have been distributed. The garden items and crafts will be displayed at the Russell Fair. The cost of membership for the junior club is \$10 per child for the first two children in the family and \$5 for each additional child.

Manja Bastian, Horticultural Society Treasurer, reported that the Society's Total Equity as of June 20th, 2022 is \$19,952.31. (Please see her complete Financial Report also posted on the website.) We have 150 members for 2022 (compared to 75 at this time last year). There are still three rain barrels left to sell at a cost of \$55 each.

Louise Houle, Director assigned to Trips and Garden Crafts, explained the rules of the flower show and reminded everyone to vote. There will be prizes, distributed at the September meeting, for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place entries. She said that twenty-four people went on the day trip on May 18th to Manja's Tulip Farm and all enjoyed themselves very much. Sixteen people went to the Garden Path Homemade Soaps venue in Vankleek Hill on June 5th. Later some also went to the Beau's Brewery also in Vankleek Hill. Upcoming trips are the LouLou Lavender Farm, Williamstown on July 7th; Garden Gardens in Winchester on August 18th and Humanics Sanctuary and Sculpture Park in Cumberland on September 15th. She also reported that the Glass on Glass workshop was a great success. The next workshop will be on July 13th where participants will create Leaf Print Cement Coasters.

Louise also shared a work sheet to record her volunteer hours that she finds helpful.

Grace reported that the Ontario Horticultural Society Annual General Meeting will be a virtual meeting and will be held on July 16th.

Alice Proper reported on the garden at the Russell Public Library. They have all the tools and volunteers they need. The raised beds are yet to be installed. She suggested, if possible, we all make ourselves very visible to hopefully control vandalism.

Our next meeting will be held on September 19th and the topic will be Composting and Cold Storage, presented by Myra Van Die.

Society members Rosie, Gloria and Grace all brought in plants and tubers to share with the members.

Alice Proper introduced the speaker for the evening from the Innovative Community Support Services.

Innovative Community Support Services (ICSS) is a non-profit charitable organization that is committed to creating and providing families & individuals with innovative, high quality, and cost-effective community based programs and services that promote a strong sense of well-being while making a positive contribution to our culturally diversified community.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Johnston, Secretary, Russell Horticultural Society