

Russell and District
Horticultural Society Meeting
Monday, November 21st, 2022
Held in Community Hall, Marionville, ON

President, Grace Stapper welcomed everyone. There were approximately 38 in attendance.

Myra Van Die (our guest speaker for the evening) gave a very informative talk on Composting for the Home Garden and Root Cellaring. Myra mentioned two books dealing with these subjects: "Field Guide to On-Farm Composting". This book can be obtained at no cost by contacting them at pals.publishing@cornell.edu. The other book was entitled "Root Cellaring – Natural Cold Storage of Fruits and Vegetables".

Minutes from the October 2022 meeting: Moved by Linda Duhamel and seconded by Pegi Holtz to accept the October 2022 minutes with a change to reflect the possibility of Russell hosting the District Annual General Meeting in either 2024 or 2025.

Filing Cabinets for Horticultural Society: Connie Johnston reported that a filing cabinet is now at the museum for the Horticultural Society's use. Thanks to Linda Duhamel for providing the cabinet and Jake and Marianne Vedder for picking it up and delivering it to the museum. Once a permanent location has been determined by the Historical Society, a volunteer from the Horticultural Society would be required to transfer the files from the cardboard boxes into the cabinet. Connie will let us know when this happens.

Christmas Lights: Contact will be made with the Police Village Trustees regarding placing lights on the bridge at MacDougall Park.

Bird House at Museum Project: Connie Johnston has been in touch with Kevin Bird of the Township of Russell. She is still waiting a response from him regarding the placement of the posts for both the exterior birdhouse and tractor seat. Thanks to Bob Proper for constructing the bird houses from the exterior cladding of the museum. Bob has delivered the birdhouse that will be placed inside the museum to Connie. Connie will contact Marilyn McMillan (who spearheaded this endeavour) when she has heard from the Township.

Living Locally Fair: St. Thomas Aquinas High School will take on the responsibilities of organizing and running this Fair in the future. It is scheduled to be held on Saturday, January 21st at the high school.

Financial Report: Treasurer Manja Bastian reported that our Bank Balance is \$19,140.54. Our webmaster, Jacqueline Wyss will be posting the entire financial statement on our website. Two people are required to audit the financial records. This cannot be completed by an executive officer. Clay Hobson and Kathleen Pitruwiak offered to review the books. A motion was made to accept the unreviewed statement by Carol Van Die and seconded by Charles Freeman.

Other Business:

Thanks to Eleanor for bringing in cedar boughs for anyone who would like to take some for their seasonal decorating.

President Stapper asked if anyone knew Frances McCormick. Frances ordered two Horticultural Society calendars.

Election of Officers:

Elections were held and the following is a list of the new Board of Directors:

President:	Pegi Holtz
Past President:	Grace Stapper
1 st Vice-President:	Louise Houle
Treasurer:	Manja Bastian
Assistant Treasurer:	Peter Van Die
Secretary:	Christine Bourgeois
Assistant Secretary:	Christine Lanthier
Web Master:	Jacqueline Wyss
Directors:	Carole Van Die
	Lindley McPhail
	Marianne Vedder
	Marilyn McMillan
	Linda Duhamel
	Christine Lanthier
	Julie Keravel
	Susan Barr

Susan Ramsay, District Director, installed the new Board of Directors.

The evening concluded with Louise Houle and Johanna conducting a Christmas craft lesson.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Johnston, Secretary, Russell and District Horticultural Society