

Russell and District Horticultural Society
Minutes of meeting Monday, May 15, 2017

7 p.m. upstairs at Russell Legion Hall

1. Carole van Die welcomed everyone to the meeting.

There were approximately 30 members present

2. Linda Duhamel approved the April minutes, seconded by Pat Stachon.
3. General information for the Plant Sale to be held May 20 was reiterated. It is to take place at MacDougall Park from 8am to 12am or until sold out. Reminder for helpers to sign up on the event sheet.
4. Pegi gave the winners of the flower shows their prize money, and Gloria Bickertt was the lucky winner of the \$150.00 prize for the members that entered at least 3 categories over the 3 month period.
5. Pegi also requested members to help her put up the signs for the plant sale.
6. A delegation of 8 of our members attended the District 1 Annual General Meeting in Kemptville. A great meeting and interesting guest speakers. Next year's meeting will be held in Williamstown.
7. Claire reminded everyone of the Victorian tea on June 24. They are mostly sold out, with only 8 tickets left for the 1pm and 3pm sittings. The 11am sitting is sold out. The tea is in support of breast cancer. There will be garden tours between the sittings.
8. Carole noted that there is a flyer/note for iron supplement for soil available to look at and/or order.
9. A service announcement to our members asking if anyone knew where the defibrillator was in the building. Well, it is downstairs behind the bar. Carole also asked if anyone had ever taken a course on how to use it. Marcel stated that all we had to do was listen to the instructions and should be easy to use.
10. Grace requested more volunteers for the plant sale. She also reminded everyone that the first road trip June 10 to the Experimental Farm is coming up and there are other workshops to sign up for.
11. The treats tonight were provided by Linda Duhamel
12. Marcel introduced the speaker of the evening Richard Hinchcliff, presenting a history of the ornamental gardens at the Central Experimental Farm
13. A few notes from his talk:
 - a. 2 books were available:

Blooms for \$35

*For the Love of Trees, A Guide to the Trees of Ottawa's Central
Experimental Farm Arboretum* for \$25

- b. The books are published by the Friends of the Experimental Farm and all proceeds go to the Friends of the Central Experimental Farm
- c. He showed a propaganda poster from the 1890's that was meant to attract new immigrants to Canada
- d. There were many people working at the gardens with different areas of focus including William Saunders, William Macoun, Isabella Preston, and Dr. Felicitas Svejda
- e. He talked about different types of plants that were being crossed to form new varieties including: Peonies, Lilacs, Iris, Lillies, Weigela, Forsythia, Mock Oranges, Columbines, Carnations, Geraniums, Chrysanthemums, and Crabapples.
- f. He then talked briefly of the book Trees. It is about trees in the arboretum, with the first having been planted in 1889. By 1908, there were 3280 species, with approximately 1500 left today. The book is divided into Environmental, Ornamental, Resource, and Fruit trees.
- g. For more information go to the website: www.friendsofthefarm.ca