

Russell & District Horticultural Society meeting minutes March 17, 2025

Marionville Community Centre

Linda DuHamel and Manja Bastian collected money for memberships and distributed membership cards, new Year Book for 2025 and book marks.

Grace Stapper welcomed all members and guests in attendance. 53 total.

Acceptance of minutes from February 17th, 2025 meeting. Moved by Cindy Anderson and seconded by Marilyn MacMillan.

Business:

Grace S - reminded us of last chance to buy tickets for a draw for a quilted floral wall hanging (donated by Cindy Anderson) this evening. Funds to go to the Food Bank. Winner was Debbie Courneyea.

Reminder to look at the seeds to give away, Richters seed catalogues and brochures with information on GMO vegetables.

March it on Out this coming weekend at St Thomas Aquinas Catholic High School. Sign up sheets out for volunteers for Friday night set up and Saturday clean up. Reminder that no one can take items on Friday evening.

Reminder of Seedy Saturday in Chesterville on March 22. See poster on table, with details.

Louise Houle:

Workshops- announced the upcoming workshops, sign up sheets out and payment to go to Louise.

Garden Tours – we still need to find gardens to tour. Everyone to look for any gardens in the neighbourhood that may be interesting and reminder that it will only take 1 hour of the garden owner's time. Gardens can be large or small. Keep the need for parking in mind.

Christine Lanthier:

Day trips/Outings for June, July and August announced. Asked if there was interest in touring a vineyard and the response was positive – will book a date with Perrault Vineyard in Navan. Wine tasting is available and may do a potluck.

Grace S:

2025 Year Book – thank you to Jacqueline Wyss and Pegi Holtz for all the work done on this. Note that a page was added so you can record your volunteer hours.

AGM is in Kemptville on April 12th, the theme is "Flower Power". Cost is \$40 but our members pay \$15 as our society subsidizes \$25. Final sign up and payment due tonight. If you can't go

you will have to pay full amount. We need to sign up if participating in the flower and photography competition. Louise H asked for help to do our display and welcomes ideas. Our society gets 3 votes and need one more member to vote. Louise Freeman encouraged attendance and stated that she has gone to many AGMs in Ontario and District One puts on the best AGMs.

Plant Sale in May – Matt, the teacher from St Thomas Aquinas CHS is starting seeds again for plants for us to sell. Grace asked for someone to buy (and get reimbursed) 6 bags of starting soil and take it to him. Cynthia volunteered to buy. Matt also requires a fan (Grace will ask him what he would like and arrange to buy one).

Cindy Anderson asked if anyone can pick up the speaker in Ottawa next month. Diane Sharp offered to do this.

Presentation: Diane Sharp introduced Rebecca Boyar speaking on Grow like a Pro - Hydroponic Gardening. A dynamic and informative speaker who kept everyone captivated with ideas. She is presenting a workshop at Beyond the House in Russell this Saturday on Seed Starting.

Flower Show – we all voted for our favourite arrangements

1. An arrangement in a candle holder in honour of World Candle Day. Winner was Marilyn MacMillan.
2. An arrangement in a bowl in honour of National Cereal Day. Winner was Gloria Biickert
3. An arrangement with a Tropical Flair in honour of March Break. Winner was Pegi Holtz.

Minutes by Christine Lanthier