



Russell and District Horticultural Society meeting

Location: Marionville Community Centre

September 15, 2025

1. Welcome, New members, exits and washrooms.

Grace Stapper greeted all attendees, new members, and identified washroom facilities including exits. She also highlighted the exhibits for the Juniors Flower Show and encouraged members to take a look. A big thank you to all the judges and a very special thank you to Genevieve T. for her involvement in this program. Each Junior participant received a certificate and \$5 for their efforts.

Genevieve L. brought in some of her lovely garlic for sale and mention was made that she can take orders (large and small) with drop off at Louise's place for pick up.

2. Acceptance of minutes of June 16, 2025 meeting.

Moved by Louise Houle and seconded by Carole VanDie. All were in favour and last meeting's minutes were accepted.

3. Reports from committees.

- Manja (Treasurer), provided members with a brief summary of the RDHS financials which are in good standing.
- Pegi distributed the show prize money for the June Flower Show to the lucky winners.
- Louise reminded everyone of the Glass on Glass workshop to be held at Pegi's home on Thursday, September 25th (details on page 21 of the yearbook). There are minimum spots left. Louise has 1 window left and some picture frames, as required. Any questions, see Louise.
- Grace mentioned that RDHS received an invitation from the Cornwall & District Horticultural Society to join them in welcoming Peter Lechner from Artisan Garlic on October 14th. Jacqueline will send details of this invite in the next e-newsletter.
- McDougall Park update (Grace) – contract for flower bed maintenance and beautification are ongoing. Estimates remain forthcoming for the proposed cairn lighting and repointing of the brick (last done in 2003). RDHS donation was provided and Township to contract as needed. Park looked great this past weekend.
- Confirmation has been received and the Living Locally Fair will be held on Saturday, January 17, 2026.
- March It on Out will take place on Saturday, March 28, 2026 with donations and set up late Friday, March 27, 2026.
- OHA 2026 Convention will take place from July 24 – 26, 2026 in Oshawa. This is an in-person event and not virtual.

- Jay Moore our new technical assistant will be lending a hand at all meetings – a big thank you!
- Carole still has aprons available for purchase and interested parties may contact her directly.
- Member plant sale, including house plants, will take place at October's monthly meeting. Members are reminded to label and price their specimens and take home any leftovers. Proceeds will be donated to the Embrun Food Bank.
- Friendly reminder that the annual general meeting/elections take place in November.
- Don't forget to count your volunteer hours. Each hour counts!

4. Presentation of speaker

Marianne Vedder introduced the guest speaker, Candace Dressler, whose presentation was on "Dreams to Reality. A Gardener's Dream -vs- Nature's Reality".

Next meeting – October 20th, presentation on Native Plants – harvesting, cleaning and sowing seeds.

Approximately 45-50 members attended tonight's meeting.

Minutes prepared by Christine Bourgeois, Secretary