

## **Minutes of Russell & District Horticultural Society meeting**

March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 7-9pm

Marionville Community Centre

Welcome and housekeeping by Grace Stapper. Louise Houle, President was absent.

Acceptance of minutes of February 19<sup>th</sup> accepted by Kathy Pitruniak and seconded by Yvonne Cuillerier.

Announcements:

Pegi Holtz - 2024 Year Book and book marks were passed out to members. A big thank you to Jacqueline for designing the entire book and John Jackson for printing. Each year book goes from March to March the next year.

March It on Out – this coming Saturday at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Sign up sheets to volunteer on Friday evening and Saturday morning. One of our biggest fundraisers.

RDHS Plant Sale – on May -18<sup>th</sup> at the Russell Fairgrounds. Sign up sheet out for volunteers. Reminder to always pot up your plants a week or two before the sale so they look better.

Workshops – please sign up – see Year book or website for details.

Grace S – Eco East is having a Film night this Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the St. Thomas Aquinas High school at 6pm. The feature is “Call of the Forest”. No cost, donations welcome, preregister is best.

Morrisburg Home Hardware is looking for someone to work in the garden centre.

Mini Flower Show tonight reminders of what to look for and to vote. We are still needing a few members to help with these flower shows.

June flower show is much bigger and has plant specimens, vegetables etc. as well as arrangements, see the Year Book or website for details.

Need 3 positions required – leader for the Junior Program for this year, Flower Show committee and Vice President.

**AGM** announcements by Diane Sharp. The D1 AGM Committee has been very busy planning and it will be a great day. D1 AGM is on April 13<sup>th</sup> at Camille Piche Community Centre in Embrun. Please see sign up sheets for before and during the AGM. All members are welcome to sign up to attend at no cost to them, however if you sign up but do not attend, you will be asked to pay the fee. Invitations were emailed out to everyone.

Manja Bastian – Treasurer - Manja made a motion that Marianne Vedder be a signatory on our bank account. Motion by Manja Bastian and seconded by Pegi Holtz. Motion passed. We thank Marianne. Manja reminded members of the many good causes that we use our memberships funds for. See centre pages of the year book. We also pay our speakers an honorarium.

Day Trips – Chris Lanthier – sign up sheets for June and July are out, September date still to be determined.

Linda DuHamel – introduced our **guest speaker** Meghann Baker from Fiat Farms from Russell about who talked about Permaculture. A quote: “ Permaculture gives us a toolkit for moving from a culture of fear and scarcity to one of love and abundance” by Toby Hemmingway. There will be a market at Fiat Farms on May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Attendance – more than 66 members & guests

Grace Stapper – thank you to those who brought in goodies to enjoy.

Minutes prepared by Chris Lanthier, Assistant Secretary