

Russell & District Horticultural Society

Minutes for meeting on September 16, 2024

6:30 – members visited Junior Gardeners competition display

Plants brought in from members for sale were displayed and purchasing started.

7pm - Louise Houle: Welcome to all and especially several new members and guests.

Minutes of May meeting – accepted by Kathy Pitruniak and seconded by Diane Sharp

Minutes of June meeting – accepted by Gloria Biickert and seconded by Frances Williams

Business and reports from committees:

Junior Gardeners – Jennifer Glenn offered to help with this program.

Library – new gardening related books purchased by RDHS.

Bursaries – the RDHS gave a bursary to each high school in Russell. Kathy Pitruniak presented at St Thomas Aquinas graduation and we received a thank you note from recipient Aaron Casselman.

Garden Tour - Louise H – the gardens we visited were incredible and weather cooperated. We had a fun get together and refreshments at Carole and Peters afterwards.

We are always looking for new places to visit so if you know anyone who has an outstanding garden, please approach them for next year. It is only for one hour to tour their garden. We try to get gardens that are within 10-20 minutes away from each other.

Day Trips- Chris Lanthier – Ferguson Tree Nursery was cancelled because of all day heavy rain. We will rebook for the spring. Presently waiting to hear from a garden centre in Clarence to have a guide tour in the tropical plant section hopefully this fall or winter.

Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) – report by our District Director, Susan Ramsey. We received 2nd prize for our Year Book cover at the OHA convention and Pegi Holtz accepted the award and a cheque for \$8. Gloucester Horticultural Society are changing their meeting dates so their members will now be able to come to some of our meetings.

Garden Ontario has 50/50 draw fundraiser on Sept 28th and Susan encourages us to participate as it is their only fundraiser. We will get an email regarding this.

OHA Convention will now be every 2 years. It will be in Oshawa in 2026.

Garlic – Genevieve Lortie had fresh garlic for sale available for pickup and orders.

Trees for Sale – Marianne Vedder – Jake and Marianne grow saplings (some from Ferguson Tree Nursery) until about 4 feet high. Trees are available to purchase at their house in Russell. This includes Red Maple, Red Oak, Tamarack, Pine, Spruce and others. Evergreens are \$20 and others are \$30. A sign sheet was out for orders.

Gourds – Jeannine Langlois is looking for gourds – contact Louise.

Plant Sale – thank you from Louise - many plants were brought in tonight as a fundraiser for our society, unfortunately some were not sold and members had to take back home.

Flower Show – Pegi Holtz – winnings given to participants of the mini flower shows and the larger June show. Kudos to everyone who took the time to participate. Reminder to look on Page 18 of the yearbook for the schedule of flower shows for March and April 2025 and think about containers etc.

Workshops – Grapevine wreath making on October 17.

Volunteer hours – very important for each member to track their hours eg even tonight getting your plants prepared for the plant sale. These hours are collated by Carole VanDie in January and sent to OHA. This is very important for subsidies and grants.

Eco-East – Lisa Deacon will be hosting a virtual knowledge exchange on November 23 from 10am-noon – more info to come.

Annual General Meeting (AGM) – November 18, we will vote in the new board of directors. Please consider volunteering to be on the board. An email will be sent out regarding this.

Speaker – introduction by Marianne Vedder; “Pruning Plants for Enhancement” by Jennifer Glenn.

Minutes by Chris Lanthier