

Burnaby Rhododendron and Gardens Society
MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING – May 6, 2015
Discovery Room, Burnaby Village Museum

1. Welcome and call meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

2. Adoption of April 1, 2015 Minutes

Motion to accept April minutes was made by John Crawford; seconded by Cheryl Fiddis. All were in favor. Reminder: meeting minutes are posted on the BRAGS' website and is updated by David Forsyth.

3. Outstanding Business from the Minutes

4. Treasurer's Report

Susan Brandl provided the following financial report for April:

Total revenue = \$574.57; expenses = \$720.00; revenue over expenses = (\$145.43). Bank balance as of

April 30 = \$6,755.79. Brief summary from the Rhodo Festival: \$1,448.50 from the silent auction and \$698.50 from the plant sale. Motion to accept the above report was made by Susan and Keith Harris seconded. All were in favor.

5. Correspondence – Wendy Thompson

a) Request for support from Burnaby Community Garden – Mary Fraser reported on their Urban Garden Project at 6239 Canada Way. They are NOT requesting a grant, or donation, however, they need assistance to build up their garden. They are volunteer driven, have six raised beds and the produce grown is distributed among the volunteers. Wendy stated that there will be no decision made tonight regarding support from BRAGS.

b) Burnaby Food First - This pertains to sharing your backyard. David Forsyth will email all members details on this item.

6. Standing Committee Reports

a) Rhodo Festival – Verna Adamson

Verna thanked everyone that volunteered at this annual event. The BRAGS banner looked good; there were nine spring bouquets and the two live auctions at 12:00 and 2:00 went well. Thanks to Verna and June Dodson for all their hard work.

Summary and suggestions:

Judy Wellington – need to promote more interest in the spring bouquet contest – next year try having a children's activity.

Therese Pope - more signage is needed for our plant sale – try a sandwich board type of sign.

Joan Conklin – suggest to the City to organize a workshop on ecosculpture and print a small map/handout indicating the room #s for the spring bouquet contest & plant sale and post a sign with list of events, times and room numbers. The City also needs to do more advertising at Community Centres.

b) Welcome/Attendance – Faye Kilpatrick

Faye reported that there were 21 members + 14 guests in attendance.

c) Memberships – Anne Forsyth

Anne reminded guests that BRAGS membership is only \$12.00 per year and your membership card entitles you to 10% discount at Garden Works, WIG and Phoenix Perennials.

d) Speakers/Program – Bev Glover

Bev reported that June's speaker is Marilyn Holt from Buckerfields and she will present on "Herbs: Culinary, Medicinal & Cosmetic". There are no meetings in July and August and in September BRAGS members will present on "what works best in their gardens".

7. New/Other Business

a) Rhodo garden at Burnaby Mountain Park – from Barry Jones, former MLA for Burnaby North Wendy read a letter sent from Mr. Jones regarding the Rhododendron Garden that used to be growing along the Trans-Canada Trail. This historical site was part of a centennial project initiated by the Burnaby Parks and Recreation Commission 47 years ago. Maintenance of this beautiful landmark has ceased and it is now barely visible from Centennial Way. Blackberry and other bushes have taken over...Mr. Jones was requesting verbal support from BRAGS for the rehabilitation of this park by lending our name. Cheryl Fiddis made the motion to give support for this initiative; Don Wrigley seconded. All were in agreement.

b) BRAGS Annual Picnic - June 14 is the annual picnic at Bev's home (8627 – 12th Avenue) at 1:00. This is pot luck; theme is "Pretend Ascot" so wear a fascinator or facsimile!

Meeting was adjourned and Gary Lewis presented on "Cutting Edge Plants for Cutting Edge Gardens".