

WILLIAMSTOWN GARDEN CLUB
September 10, 2019 GENERAL MEETING
1:00 P.M. – Lunder Center at Stone Hill

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: President Karen Pellegrini called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. The minutes from the last meeting has been posted on the website and sent by email to all members; minutes were approved.
2. WELCOME: Karen welcomed everyone to the meeting. In attendance today were new member Karen Parker, two guests and 20 members.
3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Karen reported on a few items:
 - a. The Fall Plant Sale was a great success; over \$3,500 was received.
 - b. Field trip to Tower Hill Botanical Gardens: Anne Tiffany has offered to drive members to Tower Hill Botanical Gardens next week; contact Anne if interested.
 - c. Next meeting is October 8, our Annual meeting and potluck. Contact Betty Iannitelli to RSVP.
4. 2020 Board: Karen announced that the current officers have all agreed to continue in office for another year, with the addition of Deborah Langner assisting the Recording Secretary. Other needs for next year are an Historian and a member of the Program committee.
5. NEW BUSINESS: Karen introduced our speaker Matthew Noyes, Grounds Manager at the Clark whose presentation *Horticulture and Grounds of the Clark* was enjoyed by all the members. Matt has been the Grounds Manager at the Clark for 10 years and spoke about changes and plans at the 140-acre campus of the Clark. Some of the highlights:
 - a. Goal is to build the soil rather than the plants.
 - b. Grass looks very good due to constant overseeding rather than use of weed repellents.
 - c. In improved areas, choice has been to plant a greater variety with staggered plantings.
 - d. The meadow has been improved with twice annual mowings.
 - e. Water management has focus of review with several areas of improvement.
 - f. Education is a focus of activities; Matt's team uses all opportunities to educate groups visiting the campus.
 - g. Ozone bubbles were added to the water feature on the lower campus.
 - h. Beekeeping was introduced three years ago with six hives.
 - i. Outdoor exhibits have been added.
 - j. Matt views the full campus as gallery space; as the steward of the campus, his goal is to foster the landscape for the next generation.
6. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS: Matt took questions throughout and at the end of his presentation. Thanks were given to Matt for this very interesting talk.
7. NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, October 8, 12 noon at St. John's Church, lower level meeting room.
8. ADJOURNMENT: The formal meeting was adjourned at 2:03 pm; hospitality provided at an outdoor location.

Submitted by
Susan Montiel
Recording Secretary