

KENSINGTON GARDEN CLUB MEETING
MAY 21, 2026
SANS SOUCI RESTAURANT

President, Peggy LaJoie, called the meeting to order at 5:35PM.

A moment of silence was observed for friends and family.

Peggy reported that the town is doing work on our club house. The floors are being replaced, painted will done, a new bathroom installed (a cheer went up from the club) and mini splits will be installed for heating and air conditioning. She thanked all who helped cleaning out the down stairs and Rosemary Deming and Diane Roncaioli for getting this project started. Committees who need storage there will have an assigned place for their things. Also, the executive board and committees will be able to meet there.

The garden flags, America 250 and American flags are here for those who use them in their plantings around town.

Mary Kathryn LaRose is in charge of the scavenger hunt coming up in June.

Committees need to be formed for the painting of the park benches and the planting and designing of a sensory garden. Please sign up.

Yankee Peddler Day, May 30, from 10 – 4PM. We need 2 shifts to work at our table at this event. Will be selling plants left from plant sale and little items that we have made. There is also a baking contest that day and help is needed receiving the items for the contest.

June 18th there will be a field trip to Elizabeth Park, followed by a luncheon at the home of Donna DeSimone. Meet 9:15AM at the library if you want to car pool. Or if you are driving yourself, meet at the Park at 10 AM.

Carol Courtney reported on the scarecrow contest coming up in the fall and said if there is any interest, e-mail her about meeting this summer.

Carol Welz, secretary asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of our last meeting. With none being mentioned, she asked for a motion to accept the minutes. Mary Kathryn made the motion and was seconded by Karen Caplik. All in favor.

Diane R, treasurer, reported a balance of \$5,015.18 in checking account and \$28,718.31 in the money market.

The budget for 2026 – 2027 was presented. Total budget of \$9,200.00. (Note next years budget should show the draw down from the money market account). A motion was made by Paula Archacki and seconded by Dottie Fox. Motion passed.

Corresponding secretary, Donne DeSimone, has written thank you notes to Steve Anderson for the making of planters and bird houses for our plant sale. A gift card for \$50 was included in the card. A thank you note was written to Todd Matulis for the spreading of the mulch at Little Peoples Playground. Also a note to Eversource for their donation of \$1500 for work at the Marjorie Moore Bird Sanctuary. A note also went out to Todd and Rachel Veronesi for donating the money made from the sale of their fresh eggs at our plant sale. She has received a letter of resignation from Paula Archacki. It was accepted with much regret.

Priscilla Esernia, membership chair, reported, that there are 48 members at the meeting tonight and one guest. JoAnn Cyr is to be installed as a new member tonight.

Dottie and Nancy Drain reported a profit of \$4960 from the plant sale. Donna D. said the raffle baskets were a big success. (\$600 made). They thanked every one who worked to help make this another successful sale.

Youth Gardening: Mary Kathryn, reported they cleaned up the 1774 house with the boys scouts. They went on a Nature hike, at Kensington Orchards, with the girls scouts. About 30 participants. At the hike Heidi Brierley talked about invasive species and native plants.

Both the post offices, volunteer park, and Little Peoples Playground look fabulous. Need volunteers to sign up to water them in August.

Cyndi McKinnon reminded people to submit pictures of their projects for our Facebook page.

We had one applicant for our scholarship. Mazzie Yantz will be receiving the scholarship.

Peggy reminded everyone to sign up for hostesses and floral arrangements for next years meetings.

All fire house planters are planted. The Civil War monument is also done.

No New Business.

Meeting adjourned at 6:34PM

Respectfully submitted.

Carol Welz

Secretary

