



General Meeting
Monday, February 25, 2019
Fonthill Public Library—Festival Room
7 pm

1. Welcome

Co-President Lois Lacroix welcomed about 40 members, a guest, and Marg Tanaszi, Director of OHA District 9.

2. Introduction of Speaker

Lois introduced Darrell Bley, Instructor/Curator of Woody Plants, Niagara Parks Commission School of Horticulture.

Darrell gave an excellent presentation on “Proper Pruning of Trees.” As is typical of Darrell’s presentations, members came away with a basic understanding of the science and some practical advice on the subject. Some of the aspects of tree growth covered in his presentation included permanent versus nursery canopy, the importance of correct tree planting, trunk taper, and decurrent and excurrent tree form. For further study and information, Darrell recommended the book ‘Illustrated Guide to Pruning’ (any edition) by Ed Gillman. Amazon.com has several listed, both new and used.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/offer-listing/111130730X/ref=dp_olp_all_mbc?ie=UTF8&condition=all

3. Secretary’s Report

The minutes of the last General Meeting were emailed to members, posted on the website and a copy was available on the table at this meeting.

Motion to accept the Secretary’s Report from the last meeting: moved by Secretary Heather Carter, seconded by Sandra Cruzo. Carried.

4. Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Amber Cuthbertson read the report and is summarized as follows:

Advantage Savings	\$3,964.20
Chequing	1,601.78
Petty Cash	125.60
TOTAL	\$5,691.58

5. Business Arising from Minutes

- 1) Heather Carter spoke about the need for volunteers for the Pelham Art Festival on May 10, 11 & 12 at the Meridian Community Centre. Members are encouraged to come out to help with this wonderful community event, even if only for a couple of hours. A sign-up sheet was distributed.
- 2) Lois thanked Melissa Wright for creating a letter designed to send/deliver to greenhouses and other businesses, for the purposes of supporting our Annual Plant & Bake Sale on May 18.

6. New Business

- 1) Carol Empacher distributed a volunteer sign-up sheet for the Pelham Home & Garden Show on April 6 & 7 at the Meridian Community Centre. This is a

great show to let our community know about our Club and attract new members. Members are encouraged to support our Club by volunteering at this annual event.

- 2) Carol reminded members that she is responsible for tracking all member volunteer hours. Members can either give the number of hours to Carol in person at the monthly meetings, or by phone. Members were informed that as a horticultural organization, we are responsible for reporting the total number of hours spent working on Club business as part of our annual return. "Under the *Agricultural and Horticultural Organizations Act* of Ontario, horticultural societies, which are incorporated under the Act, must provide the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) with an annual return."
- 3) Co-President Barbara Jaques and District 9 Director Marg Tanaszi talked about the upcoming District 9 Spring Forum and AGM on Saturday, April 27 at the Livingston Activity Centre in Grimsby. The hosts are the Grimsby Garden Club. There are morning snacks, an annual business meeting, two speakers, a full flower show and prize draws. The theme is "Getting to Biodiversity, with speakers Cathy Kavassalis, Master Gardener and member of the Oakville Horticultural Society who will talk directly about the theme in her presentation, "Pollinator Gardens from the Ground Up", and Sue Clarke, Instructor/Curator at the Niagara Parks School of Horticulture, who will explore the subject of "The Legacy Prairie Garden at Niagara Parks Botanical Gardens." Members are encouraged to register online through Eventbrite.
<https://www.gardenontario.org/subdomains/d9/events.html>
- 4) Co-President Lois reminded members that the date of the next meeting is on Monday, March 18 when member Melissa Wright will present a floral demonstration, "Design with Line."
- 5) Co-President Barbara thanked the Refreshment Committee: Wendy Atkins, Susan Law, Jere Brown and Jean Yungblut.
- 6) The Raffle was held and Door Prizes were distributed to the winners.

7. **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting: moved by Trish Rybski, seconded by Sandra Cruzo. Carried.

Lois Lacroix, Co-President

Heather Carter, Secretary

Barbara Jaques, Co-President