

**Burr Gardens Advisory Committee Meeting  
January 10, 2013**

**Meeting Opened**

**Present:** Lisa Clair, Laura Fasano, Jeanne Finlay, Ellen Gould, Michael Jehle, Ken Placko as liaison from DPW, Meg Landrey as liaison from Community Breakfast Subcommittee.

**Meeting Called to Order:** Chairman Laura Fasano called the meeting to order at 10:02 am.

**Agenda**

**Approval of Minutes**

Laura Fasano asked for approval of Minutes from the October, November, and December 2012 meetings. Mike Jehle made a motion to approve, Lisa Clair seconded. The vote 6-0-0

**Presidents Report**

Laura Fasano welcomed the committee as the New Year begins. She is excited to be taking on the Presidency and thanked the committee for continued involvement and support.

**Grounds Report**

Laura reported that we are on the schedule for the upcoming **BOS meeting on January 23, 2013 at 4:30 pm** in the First Selectman's Office. BGAC will be requesting labor from the town, but no funding. **Mike Jehle and Laura Fasano to meet with Mike Tetreau on 1-14-13 at 9:30am** to review plans prior to BOS meeting.

**Laura and Mike will meet with Jim Gerrity from Oliver's Garden Center on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm** to review plans prior to the BOS meeting. **Ken Placko requested Jim's plans** prior to submitting the permit application.

**Mike Jehle will call George in Operations** to bring in additional boulders to the site as well as move the existing ones. Laura mentioned BGAC has \$500.00 from the Fairfield Garden Club that will be used for planting around the boulders when they are placed.

**Application for permit needs to be submitted prior to the BOS meeting on January 23, 2013.** Ken Placko will sign off on the application when it is ready. It should take 10-30 days to approve after the BOS meeting. Once application and plans are approved, Lisa Clair will put out a press release on BGAC's plan of action.

**Laura also reported that she is going to approach Sasqua Garden Club in February for \$5,000.00. She will also ask Oliver's Garden Center what they plan to underwrite, and what plant materials they will need to charge for.**

## **Community Breakfast Sub Committee Report**

**Tentative Date: Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013 9:00-12:00**

Lisa Clair introduced the BGAC to Meg Landrey who will part of the Meet and Greet Breakfast sub-committee along with Siobhan Ebers. Ellen Gould will also contribute. The purpose of the Breakfast will be to introduce BGAC to the community and what we plan to do.

Breakfast will consist of simple muffins and coffee. The committee will design and generate invitations, printed materials, and put out a press release. The invitations will be emailed and a mass email list will be compiled and could include: All garden clubs, Old Post Road Association, Fairfield Beach Association, Fairfield Museum, Sasco Neighborhood Association, Historic District Commission, Junior League, Fairfield Junior Women's Club, Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, First Church, and Chamber of Commerce.

**Needed for Breakfast:** Tables are available for our use. Will need Coffee Urns, tablecloths, and a few small tables and chairs for small seating groups. **Laura will ask Sasqua Garden Club for urns.** Hopefully committee can get the food and coffee donated. Will approach The Pantry, Billy's Bakery, and Isabelle and Vincent's. Underwriters names will be highlighted in all printed material.

The sub-committee will set up separate meetings to continue planning.

## **Public Relations Committee**

**Lisa Clair will contact the local papers and radio stations and submit press releases on BGAC's behalf.**

1. After the permit process has been approved
2. To invite community to the Meet and Greet Breakfast
3. After the Meet and Greet Breakfast to include and bring up to date the community that wasn't able to attend.

## **Website Report**

Ellen Gould reported that the BGAC website is designed and ready to go. Still waiting for the town to implement it's website. Lisa took a moment to recognize and thank Ellen for her excellent work.

The website will include a short explanation of BGAC and break down the work into five segments, each with it's own fundraising, local professionals donating time and materials and expected completion dates. Also a section suggesting ways the community can help and support. The five segments will include:

1. Restore the front of Burr Mansion to original and historically accurate appearance.
2. Protect Copper Beech trees on the side and back of the Burr Mansion.
3. Restore the tea house/gazebo.
4. Recreate the formal gardens along the walkways
5. Restore the pond and fountain.

## **Fund Raising Report**

Lisa Clair suggested several wonderful fundraising ideas.

1. Bird Houses for the Burr. Have local businesses sponsor an artist to create a one-of-a-kind birdhouse, each a reproduction of one of Fairfield's Historic buildings to be auctioned off to raise funds for future work. A possible event for **Spring 2014**.

Possible designs: Ogden House, Burr Mansion, Sullivan Hall, Fairfield Museum, Sun Tavern.

2. Recreation of John Hancock's Wedding in 1775. This would be a major undertaking and a significant fundraiser. **Possibly for Spring/Summer of 2015**.

### **New Business**

Ellen Gould has received the updated Freedom of Information from the Town Clerks office and distributed copies.

### **Adjourn**

The motion to adjourn was made by Lisa Clair and was seconded by Ellen Gould at 11:02 am. All were in favor.

Minutes submitted by Jeanne Finlay, Secretary