

**ILLINOIS DUNESLAND GARDEN CLUB MEETING**  
**January 11, 2011**  
**Zion Benton Library**

The welcome and Pledge of Allegiance were given by co-president Sandi Shea. One new member, Marilyn Goodman, was acknowledged.

**Business Meeting**

The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was given by Kathy Knutell, and Barb Clark reported that all club members were well and there was no activity for the Sunshine report.

**Committee Reports**

Labor Day. Sandi Shea reported that ideas turned in for the Labor Day parade theme were given to Cheri Ditzig to be considered for the 2011 parade. Cheri will report back on the decision by the Labor Day committee. The club will have a float in the parade. Each club member is encouraged to contribute a potted plant to be part of the float decoration. The pots can be any reasonable size. At a later date, signup sheets will be available for those that can help decorate the float and for those who would like to ride or walk in the parade. An idea of honoring life member Ellen Buntrock was discussed. She could ride on the float or in a convertible.

Photo Contest. A break was taken so members could view and vote for their favorite photos. There were three categories: Landscape, close-up, and other/miscellaneous. Each member got three votes in each category. The tally would be taken and results given at the end of the meeting.

**Old Business**

Logowear and handbooks. This is the last meeting Sandi will carry these items. After this meeting members will have to make arrangements to pick them up.

Website. The website is updated and looking good. A reminder was given that minutes are available on the site for perusal.

Scholarship update. Jan LaBelle reported that she has been in contact with Pat Inman of NIU for considering the options of a scholarship or a community project with the designated funds. She has also talked with Cal Schneider from Zion Benton High School about possibilities at the high school. Some of the options mentioned were; a scholarship for a horticulture student, partnering with the Science Department on a special project, the Character Ed committee, the Special Ed department, and staff development. Consideration should also be given to the elementary and jr high schools in Zion.

Michelle Batz was mentioned as a contact person at the Beach park schools, along with North Point Center in Zion

Garden Club Calendars. It was reported that the cost of printing calendars would be \$13 each. Last year the club looked into providing our own photos for the Zion calendar, which the city prints each year. The city will be approached again.

### **New Business**

Plans for the upcoming year. The new year would begin with a kickoff luncheon (Harvest Bonanza). Discussion was held for having the luncheon at a restaurant or at the Shiloh Center. A hand vote showed interest in using the Shiloh Center.

Thoughts for programs, workshops, and excursions were brainstormed. The following were some of the ideas mentioned.

- Food preservation (canning, freezing, drying)
- Tree identification and/or care
- Houseplants
- Bromeliads
- Bonsai
- Garden photography
- Cactus and succulents
- Gardening for the handicapped
- Landscape or garden design (where to begin)
- Year-round color
- How to grow a garden--a clinic in conjunction with the library
- Fertilizer/soil/ph (Milaeagers' luncheon workshop)
- Mosses and ferns
- Roses
- Concrete leaf workshop
- Summer stepping stones for children
- Hypertufa pots
- Bird feeder workshop (Jenny Adams brought in an example of a tea pot bird feeder)
- Garden banner/flag
- Hanging gardens
- Excursions
  - Morton Arboretum
  - Chicago Botanical Gardens
  - Janesville
  - Al's Auto and Hosta Arboretum

December meeting 2011. Discussion was held concerning the Christmas luncheon for 2011. A thank you was given to Jill LaBelle for her work in setting up our luncheon this past December. A hand vote was taken to approve a \$15 cost per person and continue

having the luncheon catered at Shepherd's Crook again next year. Jill will again make the arrangements with Maravella's catering and with Shepherd's Crook.

### **Other Items and Concerns**

Photo Contest. The photo contest winners were announced. The contest was well received and we will plan on a photo contest again next year with more categories. The categories will be available in advance for our picture planning.

A thank you was given to the refreshment committee.

Beth's tip of the month was a bird feeder with a pine cone, peanut butter, and bird seed.

The Yardart Luminary Workshop was held after adjournment.

Respectfully submitted

Doreen Matteson, Secretary