

**ILLINOIS DUNESLAND GARDEN CLUB MEETING**  
**March 8, 2011**  
**Zion Benton Library**

The welcome and the Pledge of Allegiance were given by co-president Sandi Shea. She welcomed Terry Fanning as a new member. April Meyers reported that a group was attending the Chicago Flower and Garden Show on Wednesday, March 9. Survey forms were passed out to members to show interest in various trips, workshops and programs.

Helen Koetz introduced our speaker Nan Calvert, Ecological Advisor. Nan's presentation, "The Purpose Driven Landscape, Gardening as if the Earth Matters with Native Plants," was interesting, educational, and well received.

### **Business Meeting**

The minutes from the February meeting were read and the treasurer's report was given.

### **Committee Reports**

**Labor Day.** Jill LaBelle began the discussion relaying that Historian Ethel Flesher passed on information that our club was founded on July 8, 1937, making 2012 our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. If we pursued our anniversary celebration for the Labor Day theme for this year, we would be in competition with the Zion Park District's 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Jill moved that we wait until 2012 to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We would petition the Labor Day committee to recognize our club as the 2012 Labor Day parade theme and enter a float at that time. The kick off our anniversary would be the 2012 Garden Tour. The motion was seconded by Marty Butler and the motion carried by a hand vote.

### **Old Business.**

**Scholarship Update.** Jan LaBelle reviewed her report originally presented at the January meeting. The ideas were to either partner with a school/community group to promote gardening or to offer a scholarship to a graduating senior interested in the horticultural field. \$500 has already been approved for this project. The question was asked if the club could provide funding for both options. Jill LaBelle motioned that \$500 more be approved so that both a \$500 scholarship could be awarded and \$500 be used for the school/community project. The motion was seconded and passed by a hand vote.

**Membership in the Garden Club of Illinois.** A question was asked about our membership with the state organization. The main concern dealt with the benefit of our cost to be members. The magazine to the membership was not that useful and some reported that they had not even received the magazine. Insurance for club events was a reason for membership a year ago. Barb Riipi made a motion that we drop our

membership. The motion was seconded and a hand vote approved the motion. We will look into insurance to cover our garden tour to compensate for our dropping the membership to the state club.

**Calendar.** An example of a calendar was shown. The cost is \$13 per calendar due to the printing costs. The club still has the pictures from the January photo contest. Interest was shown by raising hands that some were interested in having their own copy of a 2012 calendar.

Survey Sheets were collected. Garden gloves are available for purchase.

### **New Business**

**Arbor Day.** A handout advertising the Arbor Day Celebration April 30, 2011 at Rollins Savanna in Grayslake was passed out. If there was interest the club could carpool out and arrange lunch. The event is free and runs from 9 am til noon.

It was brought up that a bench honoring former Mayor Art Fossland was placed in 38 Acres Park in Winthrop Harbor. Discussion continue about the possibility of the club planting a tree near the bench as an Arbor Day activity.

A motion was made that we pursue both events, pending more information concerning the tree by the bench. The motion was seconded and passed by a hand vote.

### **Other Business**

Jan LaBelle reported that the high school is sponsoring a Healthy Living Workshop that would be open to the public on Tuesday, May 3 from 7 – 9 pm. If the club was interested, two one-hour clinics could be presented that evening, one idea was “How to grow vegetables in containers.” April Meyers would be interested in presenting and Jill LaBelle indicated interest in assisting. An overview would be given first, followed by a demonstration, handouts would be provided, to fill approximately 45 minutes.

**Reminders:** Start planning for the plant auction in May. Also, the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring into Gardening all day workshop in Paddock Lake is this Saturday, March 12 starting a 9 am. Flyers were available again at the meeting.

**Sign up sheets:** High tea cleanup committee and July 9 garden tour.

A thank you was given to the refreshment committee. We enjoyed the St. Patrick’s Day decorations and wonderful goodies.

Respectfully Submitted

Doreen Matteson, Secretary

