

# Academy Garden Club Thymes

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY GARDEN CLUB OF LENOX

SEPTEMBER 2025

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## Minutes – June 10, 2025

Thirty-two members attended the annual meeting and pot-luck supper held at the Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge, MA. Jill Dore, president opened the meeting at 6:14 pm. Jill asked that the Treasurer's report and the Secretary's report be approved as mailed with the newsletter. Both reports were moved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Jill then called on Theresa Fasano, Treasurer, to review the proposed budget for 2025-2026 fiscal year. Theresa noted that the proposed 2025-2026 budget had been presented at the May meeting and emailed to members twice since then. Theresa highlighted that in the proposed budget the major change is in annual dues. Membership dues will go from \$30 to \$40 a year and associate members from \$40 to \$50. Theresa then asked that the proposed 2025-2026 budget be amended as follows: increase membership to Berkshire Botanical Garden costs from \$125 to \$175 as the cost has gone up this year. The proposed 2025-2026 budget was moved to accept with this amendment, seconded and unanimously accepted as amended.

Jill then suggested that a change be made to the by-laws removing the dollar amount of annual dues. It was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved that the By-laws be amended as emailed and presented at the May meeting.

Jill thanked Janice Brindisi for heading the scholarship committee. In her absence Colette Lemanski shared that there were three applicants — two from Lenox School and one from Lee High School. Keelie Keith was the winner. She lives in Lee but attends Lenox High. She plans to study historic and environmental conservation.

Jill thanked the proposed officers for agreeing to serve and announced the slate of officers for election:

Linda Goff, President 2025-2026; Karen Spies, Vice President 2025-2026 and to follow as President; Theresa Fasano, Treasurer 2025-2027; and Sarah Hatch, Secretary, 2025-2026. The slate of officers was approved, seconded and unanimously approved.

Jill thanked many members who have been recently active in the gardens tended by our Club: Kathy DeVlyder, Dianne Romeo, Colette Lemanski, Karen Spies, Debbie Sweeney for their work on prepping and planting the Monument beds.

Thanks also went to Anne Gannon, Kathy DeVlyder and Dianne Romeo, Jill Dore and Theresa Fasano for their hard work on the pollinator garden. Dianne Romeo also planted the flowers in the Academy planters.

Jill also thanked Dianne Romeo for her work in putting together 5 outings this summer:

June 14, Hidden Gardens Tour and Market in Spencertown, NY

June 17 or 19th Elizabeth Park Rose Garden in Hartford CT

June 20 a tour of Ron Kajowshi home in Richmond

July 8 The Mount, Lenox

Early August Innisfree, Millbrook NY

Diane Romeo reminded members to begin preparing their entries for the Sixth Annual Garden Show themed "Big Dreams Bloom Here". It will be on the porch of the Curtis Hotel the first weekend in August. The application form is on-line.

Before closing Jill asked that everyone sign-up for the tours and for the Academy Garden Club service activities—Post Office Window, Meeting Hostesses, Monument and Pollinator Garden care. Sign-up sheets are on the nearby counter.

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Most importantly Jill presented the Garden Club Federation of Massachusetts "Unsung Heros" Award to Pat Neri for her exceptional volunteer work as editor and publisher of the AGC's newsletter, "The Thymes" and the Yearbook over the past 11 years.

Linda Goff then presented Jill with a gift certificate to Zinc and a beautiful Peace lily (*Spathiphyllum*) plant in appreciation of the outstanding gentle leadership that Jill has provided the club over the years and especially during this last year as President and for her development of the AGC website.

The meeting was closed at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Hatch, Secretary