

Academy Garden Club Thymes

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

JUNE 2026

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MINUTES

Meeting: Annual Meeting June 9, 2026
at the Berkshire Botanical Gardens

Approximately 40 members in attendance

Linda Goff welcomed all, especially our new members, and called the meeting to order shortly after 6:00 pm.

She spoke of the evening's door prizes and thanked those donating the door prizes.

Each member received one ticket. At the close of the meeting there were drawings for winning tickets. Each winner selected one of the door prizes. Going forward, the Garden Club will have silent auctions.

Linda thanked Karen Spies, our Vice President, Sarah Hatch, our Secretary, Theresa Fasano, our Treasurer, Jill Dore, for providing guidance throughout the year, and Pat Neri, our Thymes newsletter editor.

The following three motions were proposed:

1) Accept the minutes for the May 2026 meeting. Susan Wolf proposed the motion; Collette Lemanski seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

2) A) Amend the budget as presented in May changing the line item titled "Raffle" to "Silent Auction"

B) Accept the budget.

Ann Gannon proposed the motion, Cindy Packard seconded, the amendment and motion passed unanimously.

3) Change the Bylaws to include a Membership Committee.

Current By-Law:

Article VII — STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be the following Standing Committees: Nominating, Program, Communications, Horticulture, Civic Projects, Finance/Fundraising, Scholarship and Historian.

Proposed By-Law:

Article VII — STANDING COMMITTEES

Section 1. There shall be the following Standing Committees: Nominating, Program, Communications, Membership, Horticulture, Civic Projects, Finance/Fundraising, Scholarship and Historian.

Ann Gannon proposed the motion; Harriet Wetstone seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

The members voted for 2026-2027 officers with the following proposed:

President- Karen Spies for a one-year term
Vice President – Theresa Fasano, for a one-year term, with a second year as President to follow
Treasurer - Jill Dore, for a two-year term
Secretary - Linda Goff for a two-year term

Susan Wolf proposed the motion, Cindy Packard seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

Linda proceeded:

Upcoming field trips will be Elizabeth Park on 6/18; Ron Kajowski on 6/29 or rain date 6/30; Chesterwood is 8/18 and The Mount Garden & lunch on 8/27. The Garden Club will need a new coordinator for next summer's field trips. Thank you, Dianne Romeo, for your years of service.

The book club will be resuming in September. Anne Gannon spoke of the club's reading Prodigal Summer by Barbara Kingsolver

Theresa Fasano, who hosted the First Walkabout: "I would like to thank everyone who came to the first garden walk about. I received many

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wonderful suggestions and learned so much from the members.

Hopefully, other members will be inspired likewise to have a walk about. This is a great way to get design ideas, plant suggestions and help with problems.

Please don't think your garden isn't "good" enough, this is about getting to know each other and sharing thoughts."

Linda thanked:

Scholarship Committee. This year no candidate met the scholarship's criteria; the scholarship was not awarded.

Horticulture Committee Members for the Monument, Pollinator, New Lenox Fire Station Gardens and Academy Building plantings.

Linda reminded the members to register for the Saturday August 1, 2026, Flower Show which is an AGC and Historical Society partnership. The application is available on our website.

She then spoke of the committees and options for volunteering, with signup sheets at the entrance:

1. Horticulture: this involves a once weekly tour of duty to weed Town Monument and weed and water Pollinator Garden.
2. Civic Projects: New Lenox Fire Station (weekly wedding), Post Office Window (quarterly as a team)
3. Program: planning the following year's program lineup
4. Scholarship: outreach to school guidance counselors and selection of candidates
5. Membership: supporting new and ongoing members
6. Summer Excursions: Coordinate Garden field trips
7. Hostess: bring refreshments to monthly meetings

Linda reminded the members Jill is collecting the Garden Club's annual dues and asking for the information in the Handbook be reviewed and corrected, as necessary.

Linda closed the meeting at approximately 6:30.

Respectively submitted,

Karen Spies
June 14, 2026

A NOTE FROM PAT NERI

Please note that Harriet Wetstone's Horticultural Column will not appear in this issue due to some of my deadline confusions.

Harriet Wetstone will be back in September.

You might want to take a look at Harriet's March 2026 column about making potpourri. Get ready for fall projects.

Pat