

Academy Garden Club Thymes

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

Page 1

FEBRUARY 2026

MINUTES

Meeting February 10, 2026

Twenty-one members were in attendance on a snowy night with three new members in attendance: Sandy Lanning, Karen Carhart, and Jill Weinberg.

Linda opened the meeting at 6:00 P.M. by welcoming the new attendees.

Minutes: Linda asked for any changes to the minutes as published in The Thymes newsletter. Given none, the minutes were approved unanimously as published.

Linda next informed the membership of a number of new initiatives:

Mentorship Program: In this program volunteers will be paired with new members and sponsors to help newcomers come on-board faster by sharing information about the club. A sign-up sheet was in the back-for-it Basket: This is a basket at each meeting that will allow members to drop in questions that can be discussed or answered at the end of each meeting.

Apple Squeeze: In addition to the hydrangea sale, it has been decided to also offer a small number of lavender sachets, a small number of decoupage pumpkins, house plants and vegetables grown by members. Also needed are grapevine donations for autumn wreaths.

Book Club for gardening books: It was suggested to start a monthly book club at member homes. After some discussion it was suggested to hold the club bimonthly and at a neutral location such as the library. It was also suggested that members would share what was learned about the book with the wider membership at the following club meeting.

Lilac Park: Jim Brooke shared with the membership that the back of Lilac Park needs cleaning up. There is a \$5,000 beautification grant for this, but a not-for-profit organization needs to

apply, and he asked the AGC if they were interested. It was pointed out the Academy building has trustees that need to approve any changes and the Town owns the building so also needs to approve. They will ask Maureen Salvatore, who is a trustee, about this. Jill Dore also shared a \$5000 limit regarding funding.

The Community Center is starting a children's garden and asked if AGC would mentor the kids. It was pointed out that the Berkshire Botanical Garden has an excellent program for this and that it might be better to refer the Community Center to them. Barbara Gluckman offered to connect the Lenox Community Center with BBG.

Karen Spies shared plans to develop a pipeline for officers and Linda added for committee membership. A request was also made to train a new web master for our web site. The current person is ready to train anyone interested.

Other Announcements:

Spring field trip on March 12th to Smith College greenhouse followed by lunch. A sheet was also shared by Dianne Romeo for other trips planned for this year. Members were asked to fill out the forms for which trips they would like to attend. The sheet will be available at future meetings as well.

Karen Spies asked members to suggest future meeting program ideas on a sign-up sheet.

A motion was made to invite the Historical Society members to our April meeting. This suggestion was unanimously approved.

Linda closed the meeting at 6:25 p.m. and Barbara G introduced our speaker on pruning trees, Mark Stonehill of Full Circus Farm in Pine Plains, NY.

Respectively submitted,

Sarah Hatch, Secretary