

From the Vine

# Milford Garden Club Newsletter

June  
2022

**Mark your  
Calendar**



## **June Meeting is Member Garden Tour**

**Date: Thursday, June 9th**

**Time: 5:50 PM**

**Where: Milford Senior Center Parking Lot**

**Bring finger food appetizer or dessert**

**See Page 3 for details & directions**

June 9	Thurs	General Membership Meeting—See Page 3 for details
June 13	Mon	Board Meeting - 5:30 PM Contact Linda Smith for information
June 23	Thurs	Tea Time - Noon Contact Mary McFarland for information
June 28	Tues	Newsletter Deadline - Contact Martha Klemmer
June 2-4	Th-Sat	WNF&GA Annual National Meeting
June 17-18	Fri-Sat	Garden Walk

**Milford Garden Club  
Est. 1948**

**A Member of the Michigan Division  
Woman's National Farm and Garden Association**



June

## President's Report

Linda Smith

For our June meeting, we will be touring the gardens of **Karol LaHaie, Susan Absher, and Nancy Kay**. (See page 3 of this issue for more information) We will meet at the Milford Senior Center at 5:50 PM and carpool to the three gardens leaving at 6. Everyone is asked to bring an appetizer or dessert to share. **Nancy Kay** will provide beverages. If anyone has mobility issues regarding stairs, **Nancy Kay** said to park by her garage and come in the house. She has an elevator that goes to the lower level where our meeting will be held. Please see the article in this newsletter with more details regarding the evening.

At the meeting, At the meeting, we will hear from our 2022 scholarship winners and present them with their check. Elizabeth McDonald from the International Academy West will be attending MSU or U of M and studying biology. Daniel Haskell from Lakeland High School will be attending U of M and studying environmental engineering. We will also be installing the officers for 2022-23. They are: **Susan Absher, President; Nancy Nordin, Vice President of Meetings and Programs; Gail Cooper, Vice President of Publicity; Cindy Bauman, Treasurer; and Janet Kinney, Secretary**. Since our May meeting, Susan has agreed to serve as President and Nancy will be Vice President of Meetings and Programs. We will vote on these changes at our June meeting.

Thank you to **Susan Absher** for chairing her second very successful MGC Plant & Boutique Sale. **Sue Grifor** and **Jackie Swenson** did a great job of selling gardening odds and ends in the boutique to add to our profit. We will be looking for a new chairperson or chairpersons to take over this project next year. Susan has compiled a detailed report to help the next person. Please see Susan's article in this newsletter for more details about the sale.

The Garden Walk is June 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-8 PM and June 18<sup>th</sup>, 10-4 PM. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> Garden Walk we have held as a club. **Martha Larsh** and **Kathy Barker** have secured six beautiful gardens for the walk. We are still in need of hostesses. Contact **Nancy Kay** to volunteer for a shift. Nancy can be reached at [nkay3058@comcast.net](mailto:nkay3058@comcast.net) or by calling (248) 561-2378. All hostesses will be invited to a special preview of the gardens ending at Tylers for refreshments and an opportunity to meet the homeowners.

Dues for the 2022-2023 year are now due. The cost for dues is \$30 for individuals and \$40 for couples. Please send your check to **Teri Hardick** at 5526 Plantation Dr., Commerce, MI 48382.

Warm regards,

Linda Smith



## JUNE MEETING – Thursday, June 9

We will tour three members' gardens  
(third garden is meeting place)

Meet at Milford Senior Center  
(1500 Atlantic Street)  
Car Pool from Parking Lot

Arrive: 5:50 pm  
Depart: 6:00 pm

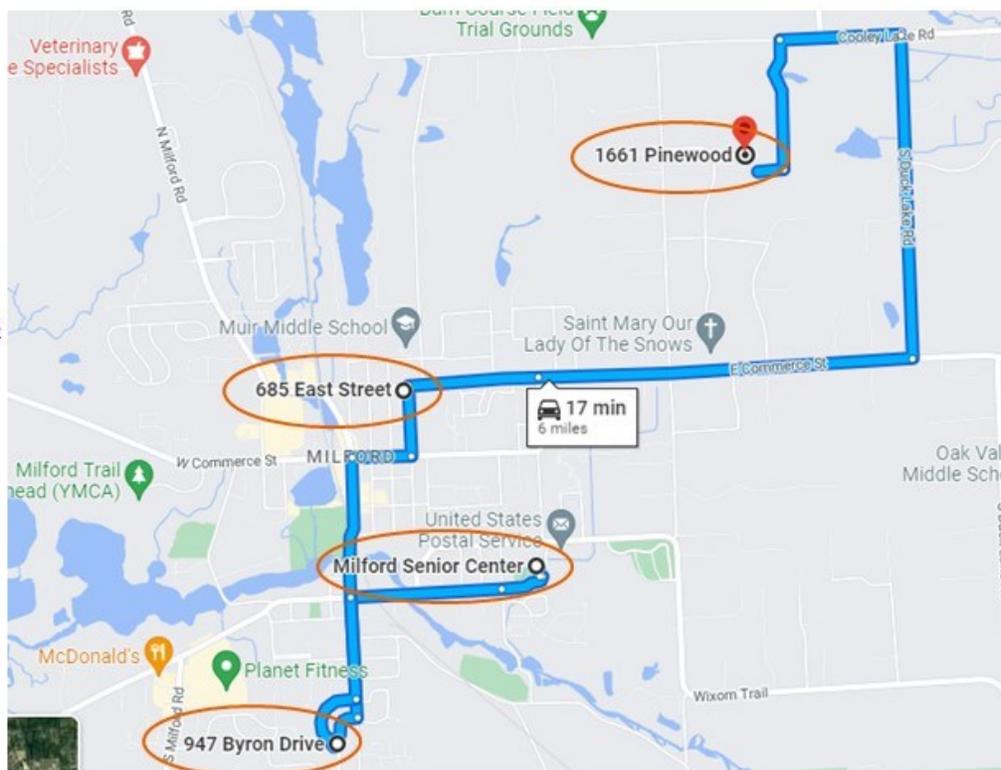
Meeting will be held at the third garden,  
Nancy Kay's home

Please bring a finger food appetizer or dessert

Beverages will be provided

1. Susan Absher  
947 Byron Dr.
2. Karol LaHaie  
685 East St.
3. Nancy Kay  
1661 Pinewood

Print & Bring  
Map  
for Directions



The **Michigan Division Spring Council Meeting** was held on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Deer Lake Athletic Club in Clarkston. Brian Peterson from BEES IN THE D presented the program. Brian provided information about how urban farming and beekeeping have taken root in Detroit and how it is part of an integrated plan for the city's revitalization. He shared information about the Motor City Bee Highway and how it is being expanded into Canada and other parts of the state.

**Susan Absher** received an exceptional project certificate for chairing the Plant Sale in 2021. The following members received a certificate for their many years of membership in the Michigan Division of the WNF & GA: 25 Years – **Millie Hulewicz, Diane Pearson, Beth Sciberras, Jackie Seitz and Teresa Smith** and for 30 Years- **Pam Carter, Shelley Dale, Jane Follmer, and Linda Sturgeon**. The event was attended by **Barb Amey, Linda Becker, Shelley Dale, Linda Sturgeon, and Linda Smith**.

The Fall 2022 Council Meeting will be hosted by the Grosse Pointe Shores Garden Club at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club on October 20, 2022.



Pictured above - left to right - **Millie Hulewicz, Teresa Smith, Beth Sciberras, Diane Pearson, Jackie Seitz, Shelley Dale, & Linda Sturgeon**.  
Not in photo - **Pam Carter & Jane Follmer**

Every year I need to be reminded  
again and again...



Poison Ivy



Poison Oak



Poison Sumac



Your mind is a  
garden,  
your thoughts  
are the seeds.  
You can grow  
flowers  
or you can  
grow weeds



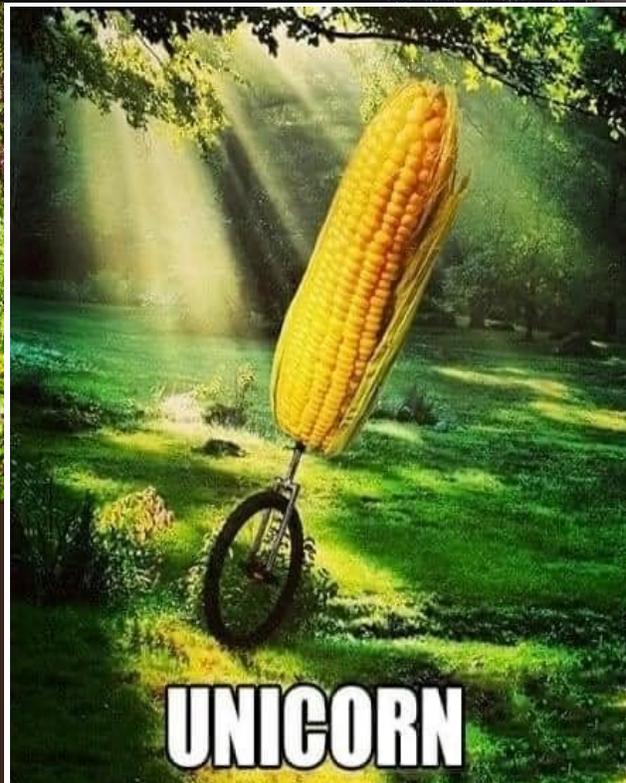
# Mi Division Meeting May 5, 2022



Shelley Dale, Linda Smith, Barb Amey, Linda Becker & Diane Pearson.



**There will come a time when only those who know how to plant will be eating.**



# The 25<sup>th</sup> Milford Garden Walk is on!

It will take place on

**Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 – 8:00 pm and on**

**Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.**

We have six beautiful gardens this year and are very excited for everyone to get outdoors and enjoy them! Three of the gardens belong to fellow MGC members!

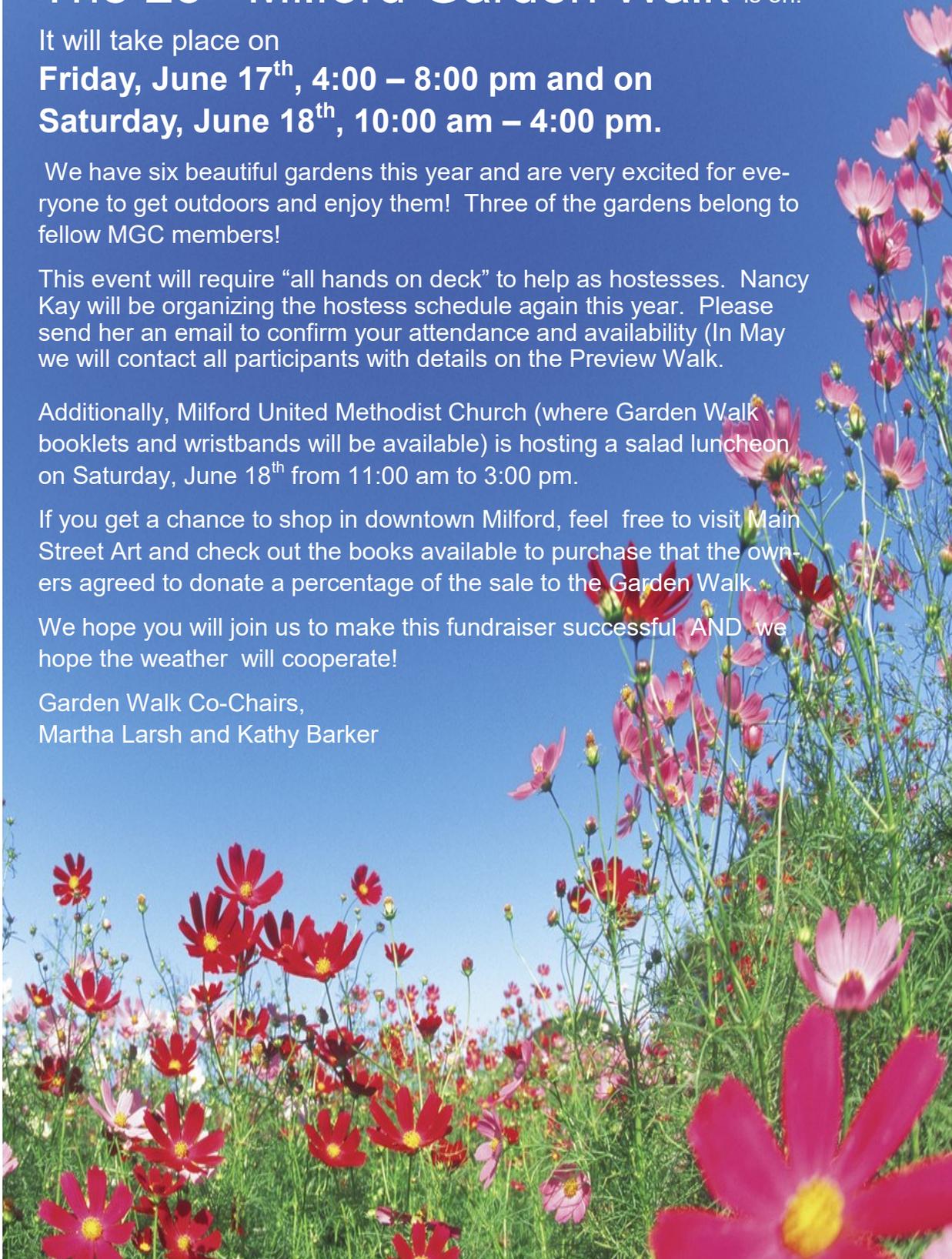
This event will require “all hands on deck” to help as hostesses. Nancy Kay will be organizing the hostess schedule again this year. Please send her an email to confirm your attendance and availability (In May we will contact all participants with details on the Preview Walk.

Additionally, Milford United Methodist Church (where Garden Walk booklets and wristbands will be available) is hosting a salad luncheon on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm.

If you get a chance to shop in downtown Milford, feel free to visit Main Street Art and check out the books available to purchase that the owners agreed to donate a percentage of the sale to the Garden Walk.

We hope you will join us to make this fundraiser successful. AND we hope the weather will cooperate!

Garden Walk Co-Chairs,  
Martha Larsh and Kathy Barker



# PLANT SALE REPORT



We had another successful Plant Sale this year. Our net profit from the sale was \$2,815.75. The Garden Boutique contributed \$178.75. It is my recommendation that we continue to include the boutique. It allows our organization to make some extra money without any further effort or cost.

The cold spring impacted the growth of the perennials and the opportunity to collect more money for the donated plants. It is also my recommendation to include the age of the plant along with the species and color. Any other information such as sunlight and height can be gathered from the Internet.

The board should also consider moving the date of the Milford Garden Club Plant Sale to the weekend after Mother's Day. Many members are still returning from warmer climates and haven't yet attended to their gardens. Others are visiting family for the holiday weekend. Perhaps other venues will be available so we will not be at the mercy of Mother Nature.

In no particular order, a THANK YOU goes out to all those who helped in some way with the Plant Sale: communications, signs and flyers, the digs, the transportation of plants to the Highland Club or the YMCA Pavilions, the donated plants and garden items, and to all the members who donated their time at the sale.

Just want to call out 2 people: **Linda Smith** and **Martha Klemmer** for keeping me on my toes.

It was a beautiful day. The weather was glorious and the friendly outpouring of the membership made for a joyous and profitable day for all who attended.

**Susan Absher**  
Plant Sale Chairperson



Thanks Susan Absher—for chairing.

# Plant Sale

## 5/7/22



Crowd waiting for start time



Susan Absher giving her team last minute instructions.



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# Plant Sale



## ***Bees Have Been Declared The Most Important Living Thing On Earth***

**If the bees wipe away from the earth, mankind can only live for four years. No bees, no fertilization, no plants, no animals, no human beings.**



We may have our own opinions as to what is important in life but when it comes to important creatures, it seems as if bees have that title sewn up. At the last meeting of the Royal Geographical Society of London, the EarthWatch Institute came to a startling conclusion. They declared that bees are the most important living being on the planet, and for good reason.

The Science Times reports that 70% of the world's agriculture is dependent on pollination that happens exclusively by bees. Bees may do many different things but pollinating plants, allowing them to reproduce is by far their most important.



Photo: Pixabay



Without pollination, those plants would disappear quickly. A study conducted by the Apiculture Entrepreneurship Center of the Universidad Mayor (CeapiMayor) and the Apiculture Corporation of Chile (Cach), with the support of the Foundation for Agrarian Innovation (FIA) also came to an interesting conclusion. Bees are the only living thing on earth that doesn't carry any type of pathogen, including bacteria, viruses, and fungi.

Even though that's the case, bees are now on the endangered species list with a dramatic decline being shown in the numbers of those insects worldwide. Within the past few years, almost 90% of the bee population has been wiped out.

**Bees** continued on next page.. 



**Bees** continued from previous page

Uncontrolled use of pesticides is probably the main reason for their decline. You can also blame it on deforestation and a lack of flowers. Activists are now saying that the use of pesticides needs to be stopped immediately and we need to look to more natural agricultural alternatives as we keep a close eye on the health and welfare of bees. Greenpeace also weighed in on the situation, saying it is possible to use 'commonsense actions' to restore and protect bees around the world. This would include eliminating the seven most dangerous pesticides, restoring ecological agriculture and preserving wild habitat to protect the health of pollinators.



Photo: Pixabay

In other words, ecological farming is important for the preservation of bee habitats. It would require diversifying the ecosystem and avoiding mono-crops. In addition to saving the health of bees, it can also restore soil nutrients through the use of natural composting, limit wind and water erosion and eliminate the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. When these factors are put into place, bee populations will be restored and pollination will be improved, along with crop yields.



## ***Annuals planted for Arthur Park and Senior Center***



A big thank you for our small but mighty crew.

**Karol LaHaie, Brook Qualman,  
Sue Grifor, and Kathy Blackburn**

As Brook said, "we got it done then it Rained!"

Thanks again

*Kathy Blackburn*

**Here's a dirty little secret. Gardening is good for you in many ways. It can boost your mood and lower dementia risk. An hour of gardening can reduce stress, boost bone density and burn around 300 calories. Here are some thoughts to sow the seeds of your imagination!**



**Dues  
Are  
Due**



Dear Members,

Just a reminder that our 2022 garden club dues are due by May 31. The dues this year are \$30 per person and \$40 for couples. You can send your dues & enrollment form (see next page) anytime to: Terri Hardick

**Form on next page**



## MILFORD GARDEN CLUB MINUTES

General Membership Meeting  
7:00 PM 5/12/22 Milford Senior Center

Introduction of Guests– **Dawn Shew, Kathy Walsh, & Hillary Norfleet** New Members – **Jackie Swenson, Carol Richards, & Lydia Armstrong.**

Thank you to **Bonnie Lynch** for being our greeter and members that assisted with set-up.

**General Membership Meeting Minutes** 4/14/22 were approved.

**Treasurer's Report** – **Cindy Bauman** -Total in Bank Account is \$6,753.70. We collected over \$1000. In donations for scholarships which will be split three ways.

The Treasurer's Report will be filed for audit

**Pennies for Friendship** was passed around.

**President's Report** – **Linda Smith**

The WNF&GA Annual National Meeting will be held in two parts. The first meeting will be a virtual business meeting on May 14 from 10-11:30 AM. There is no cost for the business meeting, but you must register. See the email on 5/7 from **Martha Klemmer** titled MGC-Registered or Not for the registration information for the business meeting and the registration form for the in person national meeting from June 2-4. The program includes visiting various public and private gardens in SE Michigan. The registration fee until May 15<sup>th</sup> is \$145. From 5/16 to 5/25 add a late fee of \$25. No registrations will be accepted after 5/25. A sign-up sheet is located at the registration table for those planning to attend. The deadline for the Detroit River Cruise has been extended from 5/15 to 5/25.

The Michigan Division Spring Council Meeting was May 5<sup>th</sup>. Our club received an exceptional activity certificate for our 2021 Mother's Day Plant Sale. A certificate was presented to **Susan Absher** the chairperson of the event. The following members received a certificate for their many years of membership in the Michigan Division of the WNF&GA: 25 Years – **Millie Hulewicz, Diane Pearson, Beth Sciberras, Jackie Seitz, & Teresa Smith** and for 30 Years – **Pam Carter, Shelley Dale, Jane Follmer & Linda Sturgeon.**

### **Chairperson Reports**

**Plant Sale- Susan Absher**–The sale of plants raised \$2,425.11 and the boutique \$178.25. A total of \$2603.36 was raised. Susan has a report to pass on to the new chairperson with suggestions for the future.

**Garden Walk** June 17 and 18– **Kathy Barker** and **Martha Larsh**- We need more HOSTESSES! The Methodist church will be hosting a salad luncheon.

Spring Garden Cleanup went well on Wednesday. Thanks to **Kathy Blackburn, Karol LaHaie, Sue Grifor, Kathy Barker, Gail Cooper, Brook Qualman, Tina Shave, Barb Amey, Beth Sciberras, Linda Sturgeon, & Millie Hulewicz.** Planting of Annuals is May 25 at 9 (rain date May 26). Let Kathy know if you will help.

**Garden Club Minutes** continued on next page..



**MINUTES** Continued from previous page

**Devine Raffle** – \$49 was the 50/50 prize and a nice plant was also raffled off.

**Membership** – **Terri Hardick**- Dues are due by May 31st. \$30 per person or \$40 per couple.

**Tea Time** – May 26 at noon. Contact **Barb Amey** to attend.

Nominating Committee Report – **Linda Becker**– We still need a president or co-president. It can just be a one-year commitment. Basically, as president you facilitate the general meetings and the board meetings. Five past presidents who were in attendance all said it was a really easy job.

**President - \_\_\_\_\_, VP of Publicity – Gail Cooper, VP of Meetings and Programs – Susan Absher, Treasurer – Cindy Bauman, Secretary – Janet Kinney**

**Lisa Willard** moved to approve the slate of officers as presented by the nominating committee. Motion carried.

**Milford High School Garden Club** -**Sue Grifor** shared that the students interested in starting a garden at Milford High School are in such early stages of planning that it is difficult to help them at this time. Apparently, there is no support from the school for this poorly “planned “project. It was suggested that Lakeland High School be contacted as they had a Garden Club three years ago that might still be active.

**Landscape Design Community Sharing** – **Sandy Riss** Sandy has met with Community Sharing and Judy Cooper and Diane Diesch from the Highland Garden Club twice. The group has decided that the plantings will have to be a raised bed. They are looking for suggestions of plants that can survive poor soil and low water conditions. Jim Diesch will do the drawing of the design. Community Sharing is looking for donors to cover the cost of the raised beds. Highland Garden Club will ask their membership if they can give \$2,000 toward the beds. The next meeting is May 18<sup>th</sup>.

We will visit **Susan Absher** and **Karol LaHaie’s** gardens before partying at **Nancy Kay’s** for our June meeting where we will meet our scholarship winners.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted - **Brook Qualman**



**George Papadellis  
Presented New  
Annuals & Perennials  
for 2022**

