

GPCA General Meeting Minutes
Granite Presbyterian Church
Monday February 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President, Kathy Skullney 7:08pm

Guest Speakers Peggy Cummings and Betty Walke – Baltimore City Master Gardeners

- Peggy and Betty shared a presentation on How to Design Pollinator Gardens. Members were encouraged to use native plants to as a source to promote pollinators. A handout was provided on How to Design a Pollinator Garden. The Baltimore City Masters Gardeners and The University of Maryland Extension were provided as resources for questions regarding pollination.

The group broke for refreshments and resumed the meeting approximately around 7:45 pm.

Introductions: Each attendee and GPCA officers shared their names, street of residency, and membership status

Pamela Brock volunteered to take minutes.

The reading of January's General Meeting minutes was postponed until the next meeting. The postponement was accepted.

The financial report was presented by Treasurer Cathy Wolfson.

As of January, GPCA has \$6,795.86 in checking; \$9,360.34 in Savings; Total Checking/Savings \$16,156.20; Grants Receivable \$1,400 for the SWCC; \$240 ads receivable. Net income of \$3,494.85. The financial report was accepted.

Membership Drive- Memberships not including what was provided tonight, 32 join memberships = 64 current members; 2 joint members; 1 new joint member for another 2, 6 singles for a total of 72 members. Membership letters have been mailed. Thanks to Marty and her crew for putting together the mailings. Membership forms are on the website and can be paid online.

Newsletters are posted every month on the website. The site now includes upcoming speakers and events.

Annual cleanup will be Sat. April 1st from 8 am to 12 pm @ St. Alphonsus. This is an annual event since 1984. This event is incorporation with State and local.

SWCC- Bob Teller

- Regular monitoring has uninterrupted service for over 3yrs. Monitoring occurs once a month.
- A Bens Run Restoration Project by the Baltimore County Government this is up for bid in June'23-February'24- 4,000 feet long ditch
- Jim Raistrik- A recent quick cleanup was conducted 2 weeks ago to pick-up trash on Old Court Rd. and Brice Run Rd. We have been working with SWCC for these quick cleanups. The area

where Jim cleaned-up is the state portion of Old Court Rd. This is one of the locations that qualifies as one of GPCA's 4 cleanups required to maintain our status as an Adopt a Highway Group. * Looking for volunteers to assist with cleaning up the area. For more information, please visit the website.

Local Zoning Update- Kathy Skullney

- The property located at 3001 Ridge Rd is already under \$30,000 worth of fines for code enforcement. They are looking at another fine for building without a permit. That will be determined on February 24, 2023.
- The land use listed as 9043 Old Court Rd. behind the Solar Facility have at least 6 code violations. The owners will be going before the Board of Appeals on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, for those citations. This location is a RC2-Zoning that is supposed to be purely agricultural. This case will tell us how the RC2 Zones are viewed by the county. Updates will be provided on the ruling.

Baltimore County now has a Plastic Bag Ban it will not be enforced until November 1, 2023. There are exceptions for small businesses that are not a franchise. Paper bags can now be purchased for \$.05 to customers who cannot receive a plastic bag. No charges for those who use their own bag(s). Reusable bags will last for years.

Granite Historical Society Report

President Bill Skullney stated, Patapsco Heritage Greenway has a new website, Patapsco.org. PHG is scheduling events for this upcoming season. Several activities include Patapsco Days, watershed cleaning ups, tree maintenance, and tree planting. Check out the website for a list of activities and dates. Volunteers are welcome.

On February 28, 2023, at 7pm., The Historical Society will have speaker, John Brantley present: The Civil War and Granite. Location: Granite Presbyterian Church

If there is any Local news in the area, let us know. We would like to incorporate it in GPCA Newsletter/Website.

- Possible upcoming topic- Water Tanks, where are they located in the community?
- Security Square Mall has decided to place a Storage Facility where the Korean Restaurant was located.

There are no new businesses in the area to discuss.

The announcements include the GPCA Hybrid General Meetings, In Person and possibly on "Zoom" in March 2023. The Granite Presbyterian Church Shrove Pancake Supper and New Orleans Jazz Vespers February 21, 2023, at 5:30pm.-7:30pm. St. Alphonsus is also having a St. Patrick Dinner.

Adjournment

Submitted by Pamela Brock