

Bookworms	Hart Haven Joanne Marinac	Lake Superior Master Gardeners	Northland Orchid Society	SMDC Wellness
Chester Creek Sheryl Lind	Hortus Bruce Berg*	Longview Judith Babst	Norton Park	Smithville Mae Anderson*
Duluth Heights	Lake Aire	Morgan Park	Oregon Creek Printha Markert Julie Mockler	Tischer Creek Tom Kasper*
Fredenberg Town Hall Gardeners	Lakeview	Mt. Royal Joan Scinocca*	Park Point Harriet Meagher Nancy Shaw	Vermillion Wild Ones
Gitche Gummee Ann Fink	Lake Superior Rose Society	Normanna Northern Lights	Proctor Hilltop Kathy Hannan	Zenith City Diggers Bob Norstrom*

\* Indicates affiliation with more than one club

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
Review minutes of 12/01/08	No corrections or additions noted by those present.	<i>Bruce Berg made the motion with Ann Fink seconding to accept the 12/01/08 minutes as presented. Minutes approved.</i>	
Treasurer's Report	Had receipts totaling \$910.06. \$310.00 of this was from 2009 club dues. Another \$300 was for the Community Beautification Program (Peony Garden) and another \$300.00 for the Kids Gardening Program. Disbursements totaled \$49.24. Balance as of 01/02/09 is \$5,116.97.	<i>Printha Markert made the motion to accept the December Treasurer's Report as presented. Sheryl Lind seconded. Report accepted.</i>	
OLD BUSINESS	<p><u>DGFS Christmas Dinner</u> – There were almost 70 people in attendance. Food was very good and there were enough prizes that everyone went home with one. Mike Lowe from Home Depot donated boxes of bulbs for forcing.</p> <p>No checks have been turned into the Treasurer at this point. Need to see what's up. Also, bill for event needs to be turned in to Treasurer as well.</p>	Check to see where the checks and the bill are for the Christmas Dinner and ensure that they are forwarded to Ann Fink.	Mae Anderson

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
NEW BUSINESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Club Retention and Growth</u> – During last four months, two long time clubs have disbanded (Ensign and Oatmeal Hill) and another club has cut back (Norton Park) what it does. They gave up their public gardens. We need to do some brainstorming to see how to recruit new members and also to keep them. Suggestion was made that the Spring Seminars become traveling seminars (i.e., be held at different locations - "Garden Road Show") with sponsorship of each seminar by clubs that are located in the area the event is held at. We need to do a minimum of 200 ads geared toward that neighborhood. Recruitment and retention may be our most important issue for 2009. We need to encourage people to join. Perhaps we could garner interest in Hermantown to start a club as currently there is none there but there certainly are lots of beautiful gardens. Suggestion made that as members age and can't garden any more we keep them as honorary members. Discussed recruiting from the colleges (i.e., U.M.D., Lake Superior College, etc.) Purpose of the seminars - a) Fund raiser for the Society? b) Recruitment tool for the Society? Discussed the pros and cons about charging for the seminars. Consensus was that we charge \$3.00 per person. Handout of club names and meeting times and dates needs to be available. More discussion to follow in February.</li> <li>2. <u>Spring Seminars</u> – Need to discuss possible topics and dates for March and April seminars. Each club should discuss and bring back ideas in February.</li> <li>3. <u>2009 dues</u> – All clubs need to turn in rosters and dues for 2009. Rosters need to be sent in to Vice President while dues are to be sent to Treasurer. Updated club information (i.e., brochures) needs to be sent to Web Master for posting.</li> </ol>	<p>Put continued discussion of member recruitment and retention on February agenda.</p> <p>Discuss topics for upcoming Spring Seminars and bring back to DGFS for consideration.</p> <p>Send 2009 dues to Ann Fink.</p> <p>Send 2009 membership rosters to Sheryl Lind.</p> <p>Send updated club information to Bruce Berg for posting on Web.</p>	<p>Tom Kasper</p> <p>All Clubs</p> <p>All Club Treasurers</p> <p>" " "</p> <p>All Clubs</p>

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PERSON
NEW BUSINESS, cont.	<p>4. <u>2009 Plant Sale</u> – Two weekends in May have been slated for the Annual Plant sale. Saturday, May 23, and Saturday, May 30, 2009. This will enable as many clubs as possible to participate.</p> <p>5. <u>Spring Luncheon date</u> – Discussed holding this during the later part of April. Looked up date for Master Gardener event and Easter. Leaves us with April 25 essentially. Still looking at a couple of different places to hold event. Hope to have flyers available in February.</p> <p>6. <u>Secret Garden Tour 2009</u> – Saturday, July 11, 2009. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed new format - tiered version. Bus and self-guided tour at a discounted rate. Bus would include lunch. Possibility of offering lunch to those on the self-guided tour. Discussed using school buses versus tour buses. Main problem with using school buses would be the lack of restroom facilities. May be an issue for some. More discussion to follow in February.</p> <p>7. <u>Flower Show 2009</u> – Tentative date is July 25<sup>th</sup>. Judy Goar will coordinate again.</p> <p>8. <u>New Officers</u> – Some names have been discussed. Bruce Berg was suggested for President for which he declined; however, he was amenable to serve as Treasurer. Suggestion was made that Ann and Bruce work together to work out a solution. No one has stepped forward as yet to serve as Secretary or President. Current President would still be active with Society and would provide input. Secretary takes notes and transcribes to written form as soon as possible to send out to Club Presidents for dissemination via email and regular mail. Opinion stated that with an organization as big as we are that it shouldn't be so hard to fill the Officer positions. We are about 26 clubs with about that many members in each club. Current President and Secretary will serve until replacements can be found.</p>	<p>Mark calendars for 2009 Annual Plant sale and determine extent of participation.</p> <p>Bring flyers to February DGFS meeting.</p> <p>Place Secret Garden Tour 2009 discussion on February agenda.</p> <p>Ask for volunteers to serve as DGFS President or Secretary. Bring back names in February.</p>	<p>All Clubs</p> <p>Chester Park Garden Club</p> <p>Tom Kasper</p> <p>All Club Presidents</p>

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Other	1. <u>Tour des Fleurs</u> – Will be holding a meeting this week at the Duluth Grill to begin planning. There was some confusion as to the day. Meeting is either Tuesday or Thursday.	Contact Edith Pederson if interested in attending planning meeting for Tour des Fleurs.	Any interested DGFS member
Next meeting: <b>Monday, February 2, 2009 @ 5:15 p.m. - Parks office building (12 E. 4<sup>th</sup> St.)</b>			

