Paxton, MA Garden Club

PO Box 92, Paxton MA 01612 | paxtongardenclub01612@gmail.com
www.paxtongardenclub.com

Programming Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2026

Attendees: Robin, Cecelia, Marylin P.

Committee member update

- Sadly Daniel is unable to continue on the committee.
- Ideal to have 1 or 2 more members join us

Need Volunteer to present brief report at Jan 13th Winter Business Meeting

- Marylin offered too. Robin to send her the info to cover

Review of programs already booked:

- Reviewed spreadsheet what we have upcoming and in the works
  All Programs Year Over Year Tracking (see FY25-26 tab)
- We are over budget by $311.42. This will change though once upcoming programs are finalized. While not ideal to be over budget, (overage comes out of operating costs) we are meeting the needs of our members.

Status of programs in discussion:

- Springtime Visit to Turn Back Time Farm (2025 Ed Grant winner)
  - Cecilia booked for 5/17
- RML program for April is National Gardening Month on 1920s Gardening
  - Presenter will be from the Worcester Garden Club, one of the oldest GCs, so lots of great history. 1920s saw a boom of garden clubs. GCA 1913, GCFM, 1927, NGC 1929
- Annual Meeting, May 31, Guest Speaker
  - Cecelia booked Brian Bjorklund & Alexis Sigillo, Wildlife Biologists with USDA. Topic is “Wildlife Disease and Invasive Insect Management in Massachusetts”. They are free!

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- ~~Daniel: Book binding/paper making workshop~~
- Floral Piano Concert
    - Rhonni was away, but we reviewed the past discussions
    - This will be expensive.
    - Need to develop a full budget of costs and find a grant to cover the expenses. Barre Savings Foundation or Paxton Cultural Council Grant
- Rhonni, speaker Russell Steve Powell. Has a number of topics charges $250-300
    - This would be good for next fiscal year
- Watch parties at RML on various topics (locked down recordings)
    - Robin keeps signing up for free horticultural webinars under the club so we get the locked down recordings.
    - We had a watch party in April 2025 (w/popcorn and snowcaps) at RML. Watched the recording then had a discussion on it. It was well received
    - The committee agrees this is a great idea, let's book one at the Hills in April. Cecelia to secure a date.

Start booking FY26-27 (July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027) Garden Year Programs

- We do not know what our budget will be for FY26-27 because it's based on the June Plant Sale proceeds, but lets plan for $3000-3500
- Reviewed Year over Year program tracking

Fiscal Year (Jul 1-Jun 30)	**Budget Allotted**	**Total Cost**	**Total Attendees**	**Total Programs**	***Program Type: Lecture***	***Program Type: DIY***	***Program Type: Field Trip***	***Program Type: Community***	***Fundraisers***
2022-23	NA	$1,334.41	192	13	*4*	*5*	*2*	*2*	*3*
2023-24	NA	$1,689.80	467	27	*10*	*8*	*7*	*2*	*3*
2024-25	$3,000.00	$3,272.25	581	31	*10*	*11*	*8*	*2*	*5*
2025-26	$3,500.00	$3,063.18	297	23	*8*	*7*	*5*	*3*	*4*
Average FY	***$1,625.00***	***$2,339.91***	***384***	***24***	***8***	***8***	***6***	***2***	

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2026 Bus Trip

- Committee agreed it makes sense for them to plan the bus trip
- Looking at Sat/Sun in July or early Aug.
- Bridge of Flowers in Shelburne Falls guided tour, plus a visit to the Three Sisters Sanctuary in Goshen MA https://threesisterssanctuary.com/visit/ and somewhere for lunch
- Marylin to confirm cost for 3 Sisters
- Robin emailed the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce for lunch options, Cecelia will contact them for details
- Bus is tentatively booked