

The Beatrix Farrand Society  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
Saturday, May 28, 2011

Minutes

Attending

Jim Fuchs, President  
Dick Crawford, First Vice President  
Howard Monroe, Secretary  
Neil Houghton, Treasurer  
Peggy Bowditch  
Emily Fuchs  
Marti Harmon  
Carolyn Hollenbeck  
Arthur Keller  
Scott Koniecko  
Isabel Mancinelli  
James Owen Ross  
Lois Stack  
Judith Tankard  
Margot Woolley

Absent

Diane McGuire, Second Vice President  
Richard Habermann  
Julia Bissell Leisenring  
Valencia Libby

Jim called the meeting to order at 10AM.

Minutes for the October 9, 2010, Board Meeting were passed.

Neil Houghton distributed the Treasurer's Report and a financial statement prepared by Coston & McIsaac CPAs for FY ending June 30, 2010. He reviewed the funds and accounts and noted that the IMLS Grant expires on August 1, 2011 and any invoices need to be submitted by then. Congratulations were extended to Neil for clarifying BFS finances.

Jim delivered the President's Report. He noted that Patrick Chassé, whom Emily Fuchs had proposed for an honorary membership in the Garden Club of America, recently received this prestigious award. He noted that the Maine Community Foundation had rejected our grant request of \$25,000 for repairing the front porch. In anticipation of another strategic planning session with Ron Beard, Jim distributed a current list of committees and recommended that all committee heads provide job descriptions. Marti Harmon noted that there should be more communication between committees.

Jim Ross delivered the Development and Membership Reports. He mentioned the BFS Award at the Portland Flower Show this winter and requested that we continue supporting it. He proposed an Annual Appeal letter in which members would be asked to give pledges. This would be separate from the Year End Appeal and the Membership Renewals. Discussion was deferred to the next meeting. A motion to add

Life Membership and Gift Membership categories was passed. He also introduced the idea for a Capital Campaign. Discussion of ways to expand publicity about the BFS were introduced and deferred to the next meeting. Among his recommendations was adding a Press Room link on the BFS website for posting press releases about the BFS and events.

In the absence of Diane McGuire, Marti Harmon presented the Collections Committee Report. Diane noted that the library was in excellent physical condition and that work was progressing on the Morning Room List (now posted on the website). She also noted that large landscape plans are now stored in flat files, that the reception room and hallway are dedicated to temporary exhibitions, and that all computer-related materials had been moved into the "closet" office. Emily questioned the committee's responsibility for exhibitions. Marti Harmon noted that the library was growing (112 books had been added to the collection since last October) and that Carolyn Hollenbeck's MGV posters on display in the archives room were popular with visitors. She recommended that the library needs to be kept locked when not in use. She expects to present a Disaster Plan at a future meeting. Marti replaced the library computer. It was suggested that in-kind gifts, such as book donations, be added to the list of BFS's assets.

Lois Stack presented the Program Committee Report, noting upcoming programs and events. She showed samples of some of the publicity that is sent to local papers as well as posters that are distributed locally. The committee also sends email reminders of upcoming programs. She hoped that stronger ties could be established with local garden clubs. Lois said that the new RSVP telephone system is working well. She suggested that the present fee schedule needs to be discussed at the next board meeting.

Emily presented an update on docent tours and events, including the Beatrix Farrand Birthday Party and Terrace Garden Opening on July 5, 2011, the invitation-only dedication ceremony for David Rockefeller's sculpture gift on July 11, 2011, and the Bar Harbor Garden Club Tour on July 17. Emily noted that she is stepping down in August and that after Jim Fuchs's term expires in August, she would be available to chair the Docent Programs only.

Judith Tankard presented the Publications Committee Report. She noted that the deadline for news for the Fall 2011 BFSN is August 30. She mentioned the publication of the Terrace Garden booklet prepared by Carolyn Hollenbeck. It will be available to visitors for a small donation and useful for membership drives. Judith also mentioned frequent updates to the website.

Peggy Bowditch presented the Landscape and Garden Committee Report. She noted the accomplishments of Carolyn Hollenbeck and her team in restoring the Terrace Garden. She mentioned the possibility of restoring the wildflower area at Garland Farm, which is not covered in the CLR, noting Advisory Board member Brenda Les's expertise with native plants. She also noted that the BFS and the Beatrix Farrand Garden at Bellefield were sharing information about restoring wild gardens. Caroline Felkel has been investigating security measures for the Asian statue recently returned to Garland Farm. Peggy mentioned the possibility of replicating the lead cistern formerly at Garland Farm and now at Thuya Gardens. Scott volunteered to investigate this.

Carolyn Hollenbeck gave an update on the Terrace Garden. She commended Melissa Frost of Islandscaping for locating many of the plants from the CLR list. There are still some funds available from the IMLS grant and expenditures will include plant labels. Kathy Van Gorder will be taking over the maintenance of the garden once the plantings are complete. Freshwater Stone has donated stone to place under the Asian statue so that its positioning corresponds with that shown in one of the archival photos from the Cousins Collection. Lunaform estimated \$3,500 to replicate the two birdbaths.

Scott Koniecko gave an update on the Facilities Committee. The committee needs approximately \$100,000 to stabilize the garden shed, add new gutters to the addition, and other building rehabilitations. He thanked Howard Monroe for providing the liaison with David Rockefeller for the return of the Asian statue. He noted that the back of the statue has an inscription noting who made it. Record photographs of the statue have been made and Marti Harmon has contacted an expert to decipher the description.

Unfinished Business was deferred to the next meeting.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 10AM on June 25, 2011, followed by a site visit to Reef Point by Chad Smith.

The meeting was adjourned at 1PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith Tankard, Acting Secretary