

District 6 Spring Breakfast Meeting  
February 12, 2022, 9:00 am held on Zoom Attendance -63

1. Call to Order Catherine McGill called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

2. District Director Report Catherine McGill

2021 is behind us but it took a toll as the District all lost some special members. We lost Earl Walker who was the OHA president in 1997 and just before Christmas we lost a former friend and District Director, Celia Roberts. Both will be very much missed.

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of October 23, 2021 Fall Breakfast Meeting were moved adopted as distributed by Marie Decker, seconded by Susan MacMillan and carried.

4. Financial Report

Bob Heil presented the Income Statement and Budget for 2022. The proposed budget will be discussed and voted on at the April 23, 2022 AGM.

Catherine informed the societies that receipts required by the OHA for grant competitions can now be sent as copies rather than originals.

5. OHA Vendor Insurance Update

All vendors selling product of any sort at plant sales or Seedy Saturday events, will require the society to set up vendor insurance on the gardenontario website. The Society would then direct vendors at an event to purchase their own insurance on the gardenontario website. If information only is being dispersed then insurance is not needed.

Individual members selling product for profit for themselves will require this insurance as well. The society will be covered by their event insurance.

6. OMAFRA Year-end Reports

The reporting program is problematical but it is a Government of Ontario program and OMAFRA personnel are as frustrated as you are. There is no update on the timeline for the next year end (2021) report. Normally the due date would be in February but it will be delayed this year, possibly until the fall. OHA District 6 will get this information to the societies as soon as they receive it.

7. D6 OHA Annual Reports

All District 6 reports are complete! Congratulations to Paris who was the first District 6 society to complete the report, followed closely by Brantford.

8. The Gardenontario Logo

The logo has been registered and trademarked. Both this logo and the OHA logo are available from the gardenontario website.

9. Covid Vaccines (two vaccinations plus a booster)

The final word is all societies MUST follow the mandate of the venue in which an event is held. If your meeting or event location asks for screening of barcodes then that is what you must

do, and that is everyone. Vaccines are a must as our memberships are older and most vulnerable to catching Covid 19, often with tragic outcome

#### 10. 2022 District 6 Events

a.) Annual General Meeting (AGM): to be held April 23, 2022, hosted by Stoney Creek with assistance from Mount Hamilton (MHHS).

Location - Immanuel Christian Reformed Church, 61 Mohawk Rd. W., meeting place of MHHS.

The meeting is planned as an all-day affair with two speakers and a flower show. We are looking forward to a great in-person meeting, however due to Covid restrictions, tickets will be limited so put together a list of everyone who wishes to attend from your society so you can submit the names as soon as registration opens.

All societies should have already received the poster from Stoney Creek advertising the event and are asked to post it in their newsletters and on their websites as well as distributing it to all members. Further details will follow. Societies are reminded to bring their banners and a \$25 draw prize.

b.) Fall Breakfast Meeting hosted by Mount Hamilton Horticultural Society-NEW DATE-Sat September 24, 2022.

c.) The Fall Dinner hosted by Haldimand HS November 12, 2022 is gearing up to be a very special night out.

#### 11. 2023 and 2024 District Events

Hosts are needed for all four events in 2023 and for three events in 2024. Hosts need to be found by the April 23 meeting so please ask your societies which meeting you can host. Check what anniversary you have coming up; choose and book a District event to celebrate.

Spring Breakfast meeting in 2024 will be hosted by the Lynden Horticultural Society.

#### 12. Fundraising

It is suggested you check out a London company called "Plantables". They will ship your vegetable and herb orders straight to your door. A percentage of sales will come to the horticultural society. Check them out.

We are sorry to tell you our hopes for red seed/plant options for D6 did not work out as seed distributors already have shortages. We will keep trying but are not sure what we will be able to do for this year.

#### 13. District Photo Competition

D6 is holding a photo contest each month on Facebook. The winning photos will be used for a 2023 calendar fundraiser. Congratulations to the January winner, Peter Byerlay.

#### 14. Membership

Congratulations to Haldimand, who just signed up 15 new members, and to St. George who have six new members. "Keep up the great work growing the District" Catherine McGill.

#### 15. social media

Facebook still a great option to reach our main demographic which is 50 + and studies have shown that 2 x a day posting is optimal, ideally in the morning and evening when folks are home.

Instagram demographic is 35 +; still a good option but for horticultural societies not as likely to garner members but will get followers. These people are working full time, starting families and so have less time for volunteering.

#### 16. Year of the Garden

Plant red in 2022. Go on line to “Year of the Garden” where they have event listings you can add to your society events. There are brag pages to post photos and get your society name out there.

District 6 has organized some “Year of the Garden” events just for us and every society has received the flyer to tell you all about how you can participate.

Please join in as few or as many of the activities as you wish to. Involve your children and your older folk and send your photos and stories to Marie Decker and have some fun with the colour red. Some photos and stories will be featured on the District website and Facebook page.

This is going to be a year you want to bring in speakers on kitchen gardens, preserving, or even cooking as food costs are increasing up \$1000 per household. Younger folk want to learn how to grow their own food so tap into that market.

#### 17. Gardenontario Website Tour

Catherine took us on an actual tour of the gardenontario website pointing out where awards, insurance and resources can be found. OHA awards deadlines close February 15 so if you haven't done so, get your award nominations in to the OHA right away. Catherine also took us on a tour of the garden shop where societies can buy, customized Vista Print shirts, caps, marketing materials, and mugs; also note cards, award certificates, pins and garden signs and much, much more. Catherine also showed us how to locate and access the “Speakers Page.”

#### 18. Land Acknowledgement

Donna **Hussey** requested a copy of the native lands acknowledgement and Catherine will email it to her.

#### 19. Retirement of District Director and Succession Plan

Catherine McGill, after serving District 6 in exemplary fashion for the past five years, is retiring at the April AGM. Her successor will be Lianne Krane who lives in Milton. Thank-you Catherine for your stellar and dedicated service above and beyond!

District 6 is currently looking for volunteers for

- One Assistant District Director

Bob Heil will take on an ADD position and will retain the treasurer position.  
Marie Decker will retire as District 6 Secretary but will continue as an ADD.

Susan MacMillan will take over as District secretary at the April 23, 2022 AGM.

It is important to the on-going vigor of District 6 that all of these important positions get filled. If anyone is interested, please let Catherine or a board member know. The positions start in April at the AGM, with lots of help available to new board members.

Jane Leonard, former OHA treasurer, has volunteered to be one of two financial examiners needed for 2022. If you can volunteer to assist Jane, please let Catherine know.

## 20. Business part of the meeting adjourned

In 2021 District 6 managed, in spite of Covid, to have a District information table at the Gage Park Mum Show and our ADD, Sandi Remedios, was in charge. Sandi created a great table set up and had to visit several times each day to restock the table. Sandi has learned an enormous amount about the planning and running of the Mum show and shared her Mum Show Power Point presentation with the meeting so we could see first-hand what some of us missed.

Sandi's presentation was followed by a YouTube webinar by **entomologist and ecologist** Doug Tallamy, describing how we can each make a difference in preventing further loss of our insect and bird populations and play an active part in bettering the state of our Mother Earth.

Meeting Concluded at 11:45 am.

### *Attendance: 68*

- Catherine McGill District Director, Haldimand
- Bob Heil, District Treasurer, Stoney Creek
- Marie Decker, Secretary, Oakville

### ADD's

- Rabiya Azeez, Haldimand
- Elizabeth Chapple, Stoney Creek
- Marian Heil, Stoney Creek
- Lianne Krane, Georgetown
- Susan MacMillan, Flamborough
- Sandi Remedios, Burlington

Angela \_\_\_\_\_

Debbie, Milton

Rachel Alexandra

Rita Bailey

Jenny-Lynn Bisch, St. George

Judy Bisch, St. George

Trudy Bliedung, Flamborough

Diane Bloomfield

Jennifer Blunt, Port Dover/Woodhouse

Wendy Bowman, Brantford

Amy Bradley, St. George

Adele Brown, Haldimand

Helene Brulé Bésnèr, Winona

Joy Brunel, Winona

Maxine Byerlay, Brantford

Mary Cameron, Burlington

Wayne Clarkson

Paula Clayton, Oakville

Dave Collins, Paris

Marilyn Coxé

Janet Cross

Rose Djuric

Laurel Dolan, Burlington

Elsie Eubanks, Haldimand

Anne Faulkner, Milton

Margaret Fleury, Glen Morris

Sharon Garner, Glen Morris

Pattie Gladding, Paris

Veronica Heiderich, Oakville

Mary Hegedus

Bev Hutton, Brantford

Donna Hussey, Delhi

Wendy Johnstone

Eva Kuehlem

Jane Leonard, Georgetown

Carol Mathison, Georgetown

Georgia McCormick, Port Dover/Woodhouse

Louie Merritt, Milton

Christine Moore, Mount Hamilton

Krystyna Moraal, Winona

Tessa Morris, Flamborough

Rose Marie Mueller, St. George  
Coby Osinga, Haldimand  
Jim Osinga, Haldimand  
Carol Reansbury, Paris  
Anne Roberts  
Rose Marie Robinson  
Elizabeth Schleicher, Burlington  
Joyce Shanlin  
Sharon Slack, Haldimand

Betty Smet, Delhi  
Dottie Smith, Paris  
Nancy Spellin, Haldimand  
Kathy Spiwak, Mount Hamilton  
Minonne Taylor  
Joyce Vanderwoude, Burlington  
Liz Visentin, Flamborough  
Bob Wilt, Ancaster  
Malcolm Wooton