

March 11, 2014

Vice President, Ann Mannle presided over the meeting in Carol Stearns absence.

Nancy Martin reported that the treasury has over 11 thousand dollars in its coffers. Nancy has received thank you notes from: the Open Door, Wellspring, The Cape Ann Museum and from Juni VanDyke at the Rose Baker senior Center.

Scholarship Chair, Sue Willis reminded the members that letters requesting scholarship aide should include a short description of the student's interests, activities and intended placement following high school.

The meeting was then turned over to Lida Bernard, Circle member and President of the Cape Ann Garden Club. Perched on crutches, Lida outlined the beautification plans for Grant Circle – a project referred to as *Plant Grant*. After several years of refusing help, the state has agreed to collaborate with The Gardners of Cape Ann, a representative body from Gloucester, Rockport and Cape Ann garden clubs. The 128 rotary parcel will be transformed into a garden oasis of native shrubs, trees and flowers that change with the seasons. An irrigation system will be installed and professional maintenance has been written into the ninety thousand dollar budget that spans five years. *Plant Grant Circle* brochures were circulated and Circle members were encouraged to make a donation toward the project. Forty-seven thousand dollars has been raised thus far. Gorton's of Gloucester is the lead corporate sponsor. The Sewing Circle might consider making a donation next year.

Barbara Campbell was unable to attend today's meeting and could use some cheering up.

The meeting was adjourned to a lovely tea hosted by Maureen Quine, Dorothy Roeske, Anthea Brigham and Nancy Davis.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pippy Giuliano  
Recording Secretary