

Columbia Gardeners Fall Meeting
October 15, 2019

There was a social hour between 6-7 p.m. that gave gardeners a chance to mingle and enjoy refreshments. The business meeting and speaker followed the social hour.

There was also an opportunity to purchase heirloom garlic (purchased by Susan Levi-Goerlich) during the social hour and after the meeting. We had 60 heads to sell and sold them for \$4/head. All 60 heads sold.

Board members in attendance:

Betty Miller
Amod Bhide
John Spencer
Diane Stack
Cleve Chick
Ursula Kraljevic
Ebele Onwueme
Bill Small
Joe Reyes
Betty Bensel
Carol Cannon
Carole Graves
Guy DiRoma
Linda Branagan
Jayme Sue Wright

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Betty Miller introduced herself as the President of Columbia Gardeners and thanked everyone for coming. She gave a brief summary of what would be covered at the meeting. She introduced the Board members (both elected and appointed) who were present and thanked Linda Branagan (our Program Director) for organizing the meeting.

Betty mentioned that this will be Ursula Kraljevic's last meeting with us. Ursula has been with Columbia Gardeners for roughly 28 years and has served as manager and assistant manager at Long Reach. We will really miss her.

Betty also discussed the honorarium donation made by Professor Onwueme to Columbia Gardeners and the Board's decision to use his donation to purchase a bench or picnic table for each site.

Elections

Alison Esrig (the Chair of the Nominating Committee) thanked the two other members of the Committee (Heather Richardson and Rose Marie Meservey) for their help.

Each year, Columbia Gardeners elects a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and a Member at Large from each site at our annual Fall meeting.

Alison presented the requirements Board members and nominees must meet in order to serve on the Board. Specifically,

- Board members must attend at least seven of the eleven yearly Board meetings which are held on the second Tuesday of each month, except December.
- Board members must contribute to the operation and success of Columbia Gardeners, Inc. by fully participating in Board meetings, sharing views on the issues being considered by the Board, proposing solutions and voting on these issues.
- Board members must have access to email and read their email regularly to keep up to date on matters related to Columbia Gardeners.
- Board members and nominees must be in compliance with Columbia Gardeners Rules and Regulations and have no adverse rulings from Columbia Gardeners, Inc.

Alison commented that all nominees are currently serving Board members. She presented the slate of officers that the Nominating committee put together. The slate included Betty Miller for President, Amod Bhide for Vice-President, John Spencer for Treasurer, Diane Stack for Secretary, Ebele Onwueme for Long Reach Member-at-Large, Bill Small for West Side Member-at-Large and Carol Cannon for Elkhorn Member-at-Large.

Alison also asked for nominations from the floor but there were none.

The presented slate of officers and members at large was unanimously unopposed. Thus, all elected members will continue in their current positions for another year.

Alison thanked all who serve Columbia Gardeners.

Betty M. thanked the Nominating Committee for their efforts and told them they did a great job. She commented that the Committee has been together for a few years and if they would like to continue, that would be great.

Door Prizes and Close of Meeting

A number of door prizes were awarded and the meeting ended around 8:20 p.m.