

Minutes of the Armidale Club Meeting

Date: November 23rd 2017
Location: Armidale Uniting Church Lounge
Commenced: 8.15 pm

Present : Ray Cantrell (President & Chair), Susan Cantrell, Ray and Joan Monty, Ray and Joce Winnington, David Trenerry, Jude Costello, Ray and Christie Cooksey, Nick and Suzanne Hanson, Kim Swan, Michael Cherry, Eileen Mitchell, Maria Hitchcock, Mary Dwyer, Rita Lockyer, Dar Brookes, Nerrille Waterhouse, Carole Fullalove, Laurie Pulley

Apologies: Julia John, Rod Aitken, Tricia Moore, Astrid Knirsch, Gilbert Jeyaruban, Declan McGrath

Judges: Susan Cantrell

The evening commenced with a BBQ dinner at 6.30pm. Minutes of previous meeting held on 26th October 2017 were taken as read and confirmed. Moved: Ray Cantrell Seconded: David Trenerry CARRIED

Business arising from the minutes:

- None

Correspondence in:

- Our garden magazines
- Annual report was received from Garden Clubs of Australia
- Floral design competition and demonstration at Mittagong (February). Can be obtained from Ray via email

Correspondence out:

- None.

Treasurer's Report:

The treasurer's report was presented by Ray Cantrell as the meetings chairman. Ray reported that the closing balance for the Month of October was \$2754.36 (including cash float). Ray moved that the Treasurer's report be received. Seconded by Dar Brookes. CARRIED.

General Business:

- No activity regarding the arrival of refugees to Armidale, so plant propagation has not been organised yet.

- Michael indicated that there are a lot of garden club magazines being stored at the church. These will be sent for recycling unless members want them tonight.
- Maria has set up the AGC website using Weebly and is happy to manage this for the club. The URL is armidalegardenclub.weebly.com (which is free). Removing weebly from the URL or to run videos will require an upgrade (\$140 annually). To get google recognition (1st page listed) requires links (everybody bookmark the page please!). Maria will also post the club link onto other pages. It is important that the page is regularly updated to increase the page visibility on google. A contact for the club needs to be decided upon and some documents (eg minutes) can be loaded. Please send Maria photos of 800 pixels or less. Weebly makes all pictures a constant size. Ray thanked Maria for her efforts on behalf of the members. Ray nominated Maria as webmaster, seconded by Dar. All agreed.
- Open gardens at Guyra, Kentucky and St Peters. Pictures are currently available on New England Gardeners (facebook). Some excellent gardens were open to see. Marcia Arjani's garden was open to visit (tree peony, mollis azalea etc, all in full sun). Marcias spring tonic is 1tsp Epsom salts, 1tsp Potash, 1tsp seasol, 1tsp iron chelates in a bucket of water.
- The Garden Club also visited Saumarez to see the heritage roses on Saturday 18th of November. There has been a lot of development since last season and the garden looked great. Visit soon before the single flowering varieties fade, if you haven't already done so. Ray moved that we donate \$100 towards the garden upkeep at Saumarez. The members nominated to increase this to \$200. Seconded Jude Costello. CARRIED.
- Ray informed the club that Peter Thorneycroft had donated a grafting kit, as he is unable to attend the club currently. The club thanked Peter for his donation to a future raffle.

Show and Tell:

- Cold weather is making rose petals blush pink, even when the rose it supposed to be white/yellow. Jude showed some of these discoloured roses. Might be anthocyanin, which protects plants from frost etc. Also seen in gums. Another rose which alters colour is "Double Delight".

Judge's comments:

Susan mentioned the competition tables will be corrected for pelargoniums. Some lovely roses (especially an un-named red), "Hot chocolate" and "Chicago Peace", "Jude the Obscure", "Wild Rover". In the annuals -an excellent paper daisy, larkspur and sweet peas. In flowering perennials – the flannel flower, a purple penstemon and acanthus were the stars. In flowering tree/shrub – Ceanothus (pink!), Cotinus "Royal velvet"(?) and hebe. No rhubarb entries. Culinary herbs – three native Australian mints, followed

up by thyme/rosemary/parsley. Three edible berries presented some really early loganberries. And still some asparagus.

The President thanked Susan for her deliberations and comments.

After a rapid calculation to include tonights results, the AGC Awards for 2017 were:

1. Ray Monty – Toss-Frazier trophy (highest points)
2. Second highest – Susan Cantrell
3. 3rd Maria Hitchcock
4. Novice or encouragement award – went to Laurie Pulley (courtesy of the Monty's)

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd February, 2017, at 6.30pm. The February meeting will be our Welcoming BBQ. Ray wished all club members a wonderful break over Christmas.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.25pm

Confirmed as a correct record:.....Chair/...../2017