**Homer Garden Club Meeting October 15 - Minutes**

1. Announcements

The meeting was called to order at 2:10. President Kathy Dube announced that memberships should be renewed, and mail and email addresses should be updated. There is a form on the HGC website that can be printed out and mailed in, or anyone can renew or sign up at any Garden Club meeting.

1. Secretary’s Report – nothing to report
2. Treasurer’s Report – Kendall reported that the Garden Club has a balance of $26,962.17
3. Committee Reports
   1. Gardener’s weekend will be July 21st and 4+ gardens are on the schedule. Still working on another smaller tour for members only at an earlier date.
   2. Speaker’s Committee – Jan reported that Reid Brewer, Monica Kopp, and Carey Restino would be presenting on the Kachemak Bay College High tunnel and agriculture program. November’s program will be Don Blado - Master gardening, senior gardening and the food pantry.
   3. Baycrest Garden has been put to bed for the winter, thanks to everyone who helped keep it looking so nice.
   4. Publicity – Astrid Friend volunteered to chair the website/publicity committee but won’t be back till November. Jan moved to nominate Astrid, Ruth seconded and it passed unanimously.
   5. Plant Sale – Sally Collman volunteered to organize the plant sale in the spring.
   6. Tech person – Karen Howorth volunteered to set up tech for the beginning of meetings.
4. Other
   1. Proposed changes to constitution/by-laws – An edited version of the by-laws will be in the November newsletter and will be voted on by the membership at the November meeting.

Presentation:

Reid Brewer, Director of Kachemak Bay College spoke about a new Sustainable Agriculture program they are working to get started. They have a 30’X40’ high tunnel and space for raised beds and compost bins. They got some infrastructure going this summer and have been offering free lectures, short workshops and plan to have both credit and non-credit classes. They want to offer classes for new and experienced farmers as well as new and experienced backyard gardeners. They were able to send over 300 lbs. of produce to the Homer Food Pantry this summer, as well as giving produce to college staff on occasion. Reid introduced Monica Kopp and Carey Restino who together are heading up the Sustainable Agriculture program. Monica also works her own farm, Tilted Hills, in Nikolaevsk, as well as working for Homer Soil and Water Conservation District. Carey Restino owns Hilltop Farm and enjoys teaching interns and volunteers about working the farm. She will guide the planting and production in the high tunnel and outdoor garden space. Both Monica and Carey have worked to develop workshops that have been held this year such as seed starting, funding your farm, composting and an end of season garden journaling class. They also held “Ask a grower” labs for the interested public. They are looking to develop partnerships with people or organizations that can offer workshops. They want to know what workshops the community wants. KBCGrows has a website to find workshop events and happenings. Members brought up subjects they would like to see and learn about such as how to control pests and diseases. The meeting ended about 3:25.

The next meeting will be November 19 at 2 pm at the Aspen conference room.