

Chair's Report regarding the DHGCT Society's 2019 AGM:

The Darts Hill Garden Conservancy Trust Society's (DHGCTS) 2019 AGM was held on Saturday March 2. Treasurer Ron Fawcett presented the budget for 2019 which was approved by the membership. The Society's 2018 revenues significantly exceeded expenses. All to the good.

Retiring Board members Liz Spring and Lee-Anne Pitcairn were thanked for their contribution to the Board. Lee- Anne completed two back-back three year terms! 2019 Board elections were held and Society members Sanne Dryborough and Susan Murray were re-elected while Sharon Lawson and Jane Robinson were elected. All four were acclaimed to a 3 year position on the DHGCTS Board as Directors of the Society.

Ken Warren, acting Garden Coordinator, updated the Society's membership with an illustrated talk about the changes and improvements to the garden in 2018 and plans for 2019.

Sharon Lawson introduced a selection of plants cut from the garden earlier in the week. Several of the cherry stems were forced and their blooms brought a taste of spring into the meeting hall.

Longtime friend of the garden Owen Croy was recognized by the DHGCTS with an honorary lifetime membership for his service to the garden. Both Sharon Lawson and Jane Robinson received recognition for their long standing volunteer work in the garden as well.

Everyone enjoyed the Douglas' Justice presentation about his three hiking trips to find unusual plants in the hill and mountains of Vietnam. The genus Acer featured prominently in the images.

Thanks again to the door prize collection group, in particular Sanne Dryborough and her crew of helpers who completed the task of sourcing a wonderful selection of garden appropriate gifts.

Thanks also to the youth group and in particular, Allison Moorcroft and her enthusiastic helpers at the Emmanuel Evangelical Church for event logistics such as the AV and table set up and the provision of the tasty light lunch.

Celeste Paley toured DHGCTS members through the garden after the meeting in the bright warm winter sunshine. Thank you, Celeste!