

October 16, 2017 Meeting

o Business Meeting was held. Our speaker was a Detroit teacher who was very inspiring. Michael Craig's vision of a horticulture program for special education students began five years ago with a few vegetable seeds in plastic cups inside a classroom. Today, Mr. Craig and his students at the Drew Transition Center have established The Garden at Drew, a year-round, award-winning program that has spread to 48 outdoor garden beds, hoop houses and an entire school gymnasium where rows of hydroponic growing tables sit on the ground and adorn the walls with greens in the middle of December. Mr. Craig started the horticulture program at Detroit Public Schools Community District to combat early-onset diabetes and child obesity through healthy food. Over the years, the program has turned into teaching moderately to severely impaired students ages 18 to 26 skills in horticulture that lead to employment opportunities. "It's just taking a chance on these students and giving them an opportunity," Mr. Craig said.

Joanna Eiwen, Recording Secretary