

Message from the NEHS President, Bill Dowley

On February 7th, we had a quorum of the Northeast Heather Society Board meeting via a Zoom Conference call. Everyone should be aware of Jane Murphy's hip replacement surgery on February 5th although she was still in attendance. Ely Cohen, the NEHS Vice-president, will also undergo hip replacement in late February and we wish them both speedy recovery. As we all know, 2020 was a year we would all like to forget. With respect to dues, the Board voted to suspend any usage of dues for the year 2020 -and all memberships have been extended one year, 2021, with no additional cost. In addition all dues are now due based on a calendar year and not on a quarterly basis, meaning all dues will be payable on January 1st starting in 2022. This will make it much easier on the NEHS Treasurer to keep track of this.

On another note, we are scheduled to trim heather at Fort Tryon on April 10th. Unfortunately, there will be no pipers piping and no crowds gathering and we will not be able to congregate in the cottage for lunch and our Board Meeting. While no vote was taken, I think there was a universal consensus that if you had not received your COVID-19 Vaccinations, you should not show up. Note we may very well cancel the Fort Tryon heather trimming session if there is a high danger of contracting the virus in NYC We are going to hold another Zoom Board Meeting on March 28th to discuss the situation further. I hope to have an update on the March 28th Zoom board meeting of the status of the Donald Mackay Memorial Heather Garden at Lasdon Park.