

Goldenrod Community Garden

MINUTES

Board Meeting for 4 December 2023, 7:30pm

Agenda:

1. Roll call: Barbara S, Diane M, Sara C-W, Tanya S | Regrets: Andrew M, Parminder D, Patrick W
2. Review and approval of Minutes: 13 November 2023 – Approved
3. Adoption of the agenda – Adopted with one addition under New Business
4. Reports from Committees:
 - a. Bullman Garden Liaison (Patrick / Sara)
 - Demolition has started, the two houses were levelled
 - b. Communications (Parminder)
 - c. Compost (Andrew with support from Sara and Patrick)
 - d. Events (Patrick)
 - e. Fundraising (not active this year)
 - f. Garden Coordinators (Parminder / Diane)
 - g. Membership (Barbara with support from Patrick)

Patrick provided a link to the [Member survey summary](#). Major points are:

 - About 50% of all respondents mention fruit trees as an improvement priority while 40% would like to see some sort of shade/shelter.
 - Managing lost produce is also a priority. It is unclear if wildlife or people are largely responsible for missing veg, but nearly 50% of all respondents mention missing food/damaged plants and being interested in learning new pest management strategies.
 - For existing infrastructure, improving rain barrels and signage are member priorities.
 - One member suggested having a list of chores/ongoing tasks somewhere so folks who cannot make it to designated volunteer days can still help out.
 - Less than 25% of members surveyed rely on cars to get to the garden - access does not seem to be a major source of concern.
 - 3/38 members are interested in switching to the Bullman location.
 - h. Pollinator Garden Liaison (Hazel with support from Diane)
 - i. Properties (Andrew) – report provided by email on November 19
 - Powerpoint document available in Google's Properties Committee folder showing water levels throughout the season and storage containers' capacity
 - Moved the stain can from the small shed to the big shed
 - Reinforced the tarp around the small shed
 - Emptied all rain barrels and disassembled them
 - Stored all rain barrels, watering cans, tools, wheelbarrow in the big shed
 - Contacted Kimo regarding the lawnmower and stain can – will follow up by email
 - Dumped a wheelbarrow load of mushroom compost into the third bin

- j. Treasurer’s report (Tanya)
 - Need to find a replacement signatory for Dietrich, as mentioned in New Business
- k. President’s report (Sara)
- 5. Carry forward agenda items
- 6. New business
 - a. Build an owl nest box (where to put it, will decoys in plots keep them away) – *deferred to the February meeting*
 - b. Water usage: what to budget for next year – *See action item below*
 - c. Identify a new bank signatory to replace Dietrich – *See action item below*
- 7. To note from Action Items (below)
- 8. Next meeting: Annual Planning Meeting to identify strategic priorities and budget accordingly. Once the agenda is approved by the President, it will be circulated to the Board members with a choice of three dates: afternoon of Sunday January 7, Monday January 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, or Tuesday January 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Tanya will try to get a room for free at the Hintonburg Community Centre for this in-person meeting.

Action Items

Action	Assigned	Status
1. Tanya will send out an email to the Board members seeking a new bank signatory to replace Dietrich	04-Dec-23	In progress
2. Sara will forward to Diane and Parminder the email to sign up with Just Food as Garden Coordinators	04-Dec-23	Assigned
3. Tanya will bring to the January Planning Meeting info about the amount of water deliveries and the costs since the garden’s opening	04-Dec-23	In progress
4. Andrew will remind Kimo about sharpening the lawn mower blade and will inquire what he intends to do with the stain in the new shed.	13-Nov-23	Awaiting reply
5. Parminder will prepare a calendar of events in an effort to get people more interested in volunteering for the Board and committees; this might help determine their schedule. She will prepare it once she gets access to Facebook where it will be posted. [Or should Patrick prepare it and Parminder will post it? – Dec 4]	21-Aug-23	In progress
9. Barbara to close the Google Inbox account. Evans believes it should be monitored by the Board. She will create a proxy account to redirect incoming mail to the Registrar. She will check with Evans before removing Goldenrodgarden@gmail.com; Sara is his backup.	26-Jun-23	In progress

Upcoming business	Assigned	Date to revisit
1. Board’s Annual Planning Meeting: Suggest plot rental fees for 2024 and decide what is a reasonable surplus for the reserve fund.	17-Oct-23	January

Upcoming business	Assigned	Date to revisit
2. Events Committee: Webinar on garden planning and seed starting, as for the last two years, as per Tanya's email of Nov 22.	22-Nov-23	Mid-February
3. Events Committee: Rent a room in the spring for a seed and seedling swap event.	03-Oct-23	Spring
4. Events Committee: Sara proposed teaching members how to compost in their households.	13-Nov-23	Spring
5. Properties Committee: Kimo will design a map to break down the mowing chore to help balance the task.	03-Oct-23	May 2024
6. Properties Committee: Need a system to channel the water into the rain barrel at the new tool shed.	03-Oct-23	Spring
7. Properties Committee: Levers missing on two rain barrels, might have broken – new taps are being considered. The ends of the hoses screw off, so it's a non-issue. Platform needs to be leveled as well so that both secondary tanks get water.	03-Oct-23	Spring
8. Properties Committee: Add hatches to the fencing so that water tanks can be more easily accessed without risk of injury or getting drenched.	13-Nov-23	Spring
9. Properties Committee: Put cardboard and landscape fabric under the bike rack to control weeds. Do the same under the bales of straw.	13-Nov-23	Spring
10. Compost Committee: Reach out to Akil about when/how to get the worms going again.	04-Dec-23	Spring