

Goldenrod Community Garden

Minutes

Board Meeting for 7 September 2022, 7:00pm

Location: Google Meet

Agenda:

1. Roll call: Tanya, Sara, Susan, Barbara (apologies Matt)
(Carmel and Martin are on leave from the board)
2. Review and approval of July 19 and August 16 minutes:
 - July 19: Approved
 - Aug 16: Approved (minor comments to be incorporated)
3. Adoption of the agenda: Approved
4. Open Action items carried forward:

Action	Assigned	Status
1. Membership committee (Barbara) to draft guidelines for enabling key volunteers to be guaranteed access to a plot	07-Apr-22	Awaiting membership committee meeting
2. proposal for pollinator garden for OHS: Susan will work on the proposal	6 Jun 22	Next steps discussed. Closing this action & opening new ones.
3.Susan to recommend purchase of a wheelbarrow	5 Jul 22	Purchased and in shed
4.Tanya to work on by-law updates with Barbara and pull in Membership Committee once some suggestions are ready	5 Jul 22	Done
5.Susan to write article for the newsletter to welcome the U of O students and describe what they are doing	19 Jul 22	Done - included in last newsletter
6.Barbara to send out list of volunteers to each committee	19 Jul 22	Cancelled - due to timing
7.Barbara to send out a reminder to members who haven't renewed in 2022 to renew their membership prior to the AGM	19 Jul 22	To do as part of AGM notification

8.Events committee to put together a plan for the work that needs to be done in preparation for the AGM as a google doc and share with the board.	19 Jul 22	Matt and Susan working on this
9.Events committee to propose a suitable date within October 3 and 20th, but avoiding Thanksgiving weekend.	19 Jul 22	Matt looking at 6th or 12th based on availability of Hintonburg Community Centre
10.Membership committee to prepare a membership survey to send to the members. Just Food has provided questions.	19 Jul 22	

5. Reports from Committees (detail by email):

a. President's report (Sara):

Sustainable Water supply:

Response from Simon - Property & Facility Manager at PWGSE about access to water - this won't be possible. Next step is to approach our MP and MPP.

Community Composting:

Purchased tools are being used for composting. Composter is in need of repair. Have updated the temporary signs to encourage the general membership to chop up their contributions. If these work, we may consider having the comms team develop more permanent signs.

We still have 5 participants in the Community composting program. No additions since the original invitation.

For agenda next meeting - plans for closing day and dealing with the large amount of discarded plant matter.

Richcraft community garden

The next step is for Richcraft to draft an MOU and plan a design consultation with us if we continue to be interested in "managing" the garden. Propose that we proceed until there is a reason not to, and consider having a vote on this at the AGM - Agreed that we should at least discuss at AGM and get approval for board to continue to explore.

Harvest for Parkdale

It seems that harvests this year are not as plentiful. Evan and I tried "harvest helping" to save the initiative. Catherine is cancelling the initiative as there was not enough produce. People can still take produce to the community fridge, which some have said is more convenient (open all the time) than the one day we offer for the garden pick-up.

b. Treasurer's report (Tanya)

Tanya provided a financial report. Both income and expenditure are below budget, primarily because the report only covers cash that has come through the garden's bank account. Money held back by Just Food and paid directly to Greely is not included.

- c. Properties (Barbara)

Not much activity over the summer. Now that fall is here, we need to complete the fencing of the new water tanks and review the proposals from the students for garden seating & rainwater harvesting. Will convene a meeting next week.
- d. Membership (Barbara)
 - i. Membership committee numbers have fallen very low. Need to get some more interest and work on membership survey.
- e. Fundraising - U Ottawa Grant (Susan)
 - i. Pollinator Garden - the students have worked closely with the PG Committee over the last couple of months. Following their presentation to the last Board meeting, they are working on a design and research materials, including checking the wood supply in the shed at the garden. The draft design will be presented to the Board for their approval. Proposed location is in Phase 2 pollinator garden to take advantage of full sun. They are also continuing to work on the educational content for PG and the completed product is expected shortly. I will review it and share with the Board for final approval.
 - ii. Question: can students load it directly onto the website?
 - iii. Rainwater collection - students have completed their research and are in the process of developing a presentation with options. Given holidays, etc, they have not yet had an opportunity to get feedback on their ideas from the Properties Committee. Following this discussion, the students could present to the Board.
 - iv. Seating - least developed of all the projects. The students divided up the work and only one has reported back. Followup has been initiated with a request that they review any options/recommendations with the Properties Committee prior to presenting to the Board.
- f. Events (Susan, Matt) - .
 - i.
- g. Pollinator Garden (Susan)
 - i. PG #1 - plants have filled out and have been blooming throughout the summer. The recent rainfall and mulch has minimized the need for extensive supplemental watering. PG Committee has been focused on coordinating with students and on PG #2 but will discuss winter prep at an upcoming meeting.
 - ii. PG #2 - with the help of the students, a plant list has been developed. A draft site plan has been put together, taking into account the NCC's request to use the PG as a barrier between the garden and the Parkway. The proposed garden would be approximately 25 feet x 6-8 feet and would be located beyond the perimeter of the Phase 2 beds that border on the Parkway side. However, based on a recent visual inspection of the site, the PG Committee is concerned that this site may not be suitable. The area where the bed would be located is not currently mowed and is heavily covered with vegetation, some of it large and woody. Sustainable preparation would be required to ready the site for the garden and could require significant on-going maintenance. The PG Committee

suggests considering other possible sites which may require going back to the NCC.

Board discussed plan to build PG #2. Committee is recommending pause until spring when they have more time to plan and more plants available. Pollinator garden committee to be asked to draft an explanation to the NCC to explain why we aren't going ahead until the spring. It is possible that initial preparation could be done this year - but would be dependent on the area being mowed by the NCC. Possibility of using beds as holding beds over the winter for plants donated by the OHS. Susan to follow up with OHS and provide an update and draft an update for NCC. Sara to look into getting the NCC to mow.

- h. Garden coordinators (Matt, Susan) -
 - i. Communications/volunteer coordination (Matt) -
6. Other action item updates:
- a. Bulletin board - properties committee to address
 - b. Bylaws - update
 - i. Tanya has revised the by-laws following guidance from Ontario for by-laws of non-profit organisations. Board thanked Tanya for her work to revise the bylaws. Board reviewed draft document put together by Tanya and discussed the purpose of bylaws and the level of detail that should be present. Comments were discussed and Tanya took away an action to redraft based on the comments received. It was agreed that a new section should be added at the beginning to capture the purpose and mission of the garden.
 - c. AGM planning (do we have an elections officer?)
 - i. Matt has been in touch with Hintonburg Community Centre. The 5th wasn't available but the 6th was from 6-10 pm. This should give us enough time to set up and tear down however we set the room up as well as conduct our meeting. Matt is also enquiring about the 12th
 - ii. Matt has begun drafting the call for nominations to be sent out as a stand alone email from the communications committee and should be ready to share tomorrow or Friday.
 - iii. Additional things to consider are a voting mechanism for people who don't attend in person. I know this was looked into last year but I don't believe it was acted upon due to the lack of nominations.
 - iv. Susan to reach out to Evan to ask about being elections officer again this year.
 - v. Board agreed that voting will be by a show of hands
 - vi. Need a timescale to ensure that everything is available in time.
 - vii. Can we add an article in the newsletter to invite people to nominate themselves to the board next year.
7. New business:
- a. Beekeeper at GCG?

We are supportive in general but beekeeper would have to approach the NCC. Sara to provide a response to the beekeeper

8. Adjournment.

- a. Next meeting to be held next week. Sara to approach Matt about Mon or Tues and send out notice about the date

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6. Susan to send update to OHS on status of 2nd PG	7 Sep 22	
7. Susan to draft update to NCC about status of 2nd PG	7 Sep 22	
8. Sara to look into getting NCC to mow potential area for 2nd PG	7 Sep 22	
9. Tanya to create a new draft of the by-laws incorporating comments and a new section on purpose of the garden	7 Sep 22	
10. Susan to reach out to Evan and ask him to be elections officer for the AGM + add an invitation for nominations to the board to the newsletter	7 Sep 22	