

Goldenrod Community Garden

MINUTES

Board Meeting for 25 February 2025, 7:30pm

Agenda:

1. Roll call: Sara C, Andrew M, Diane M, Jane O, Tanya S, Barbara S
Regrets: Parminder D, Kumari P
2. Adoption of the agenda: Adopted
3. Review and approval of 10 February 2025 Minutes: Approved with suggested changes
4. Reports from Committees:
 - a. Bullman Garden Liaison (Kumari)
 - No report
 - b. Communications (Parminder)
 - Parminder informed by e-mail prior to the meeting that she will be forwarding the newsletter to Sara for dispatch. She also informed Diane on February 25 that the Communications Committee was revived for the coming season
 - c. Events (Parminder / Barbara / Sara)
 - Diane will follow up with Parminder to inquire about the next planned event
 - d. Garden Coordinators (Parminder / Diane)
 - Diane reminded that Seedy Saturday is happening in a few days
 - e. Membership (Barbara)
 - The Membership Agreement and waiver for 2025 were sent to the Board members for review and were approved, including the June 21 deadline for planting plots
 - The documents will be posted in the public folder in Google Docs
 - People wishing to switch garden sites will be considered only after the plot renewal exercise is completed. They will need to express their interest to switch in their registration form
 - f. Properties – Build, Maintenance, Soil Building, Pollinator Gardens teams (Andrew)
(with support from: Sara for soil building, Diane for pollinator gardens)
 - Andrew is close to finalizing a standalone standard operating procedure for the Soil Building Program
 - Next steps will be to decide how much of that content goes into the general SOP
 - g. Treasurer's report (Tanya)
 - Tanya confirmed that the automatic renewal for Google Space and the domain name went through. The three licences for Google Space cost \$280.79 while the domain name is approximately \$30
 - One Google Group is for the Friends of the Garden, the other for Goldenrod and Bullman members, and the third for everyone else

- h. President's report (Sara)
 - Sara will forward a summary of the 2024 Membership Survey for the Bullman site to Richcraft once finalized and will inquire at that time of the cost of water usage for the first season and number of plots they wish to reserve for their team
 - She reached out to a former Board member to inform them of a current vacant Board position. They have not had a conversation yet but the person is open to helping out
 - Just Food had provided questions for the survey, on items they are interested in measuring. Sara forwarded them the survey responses to those questions
- 5. Carry forward agenda items
 - Have a lead on an anticipated surplus of fruit shrubs, which could be used in a communal plot – Set aside a snacking plot for fruit? (Sara)
 - If the shrubs are placed in a plot, there are fears that people might accidentally overreach into an adjacent plot; a divider would need to be erected to delineate the end of the communal plot
 - As berries don't all ripen at the same time, not enough could be harvested to justify a trip to the food bank but it could serve as an educational tool or for gardeners to snack on
 - The shrubs could be planted in movable planters rather than in a plot. At the Bullman site they could be placed beside the picnic tables and people could snack on them
 - A canopy over a few picnic tables would be nice for shade but they could get stolen. Instead a few tables will be moved to the shade of the nearby building south of the compost bins
 - A separate plot could be constructed for this purpose that does not look like the other plots
 - No preference for Goldenrod vs. Bullman was noted
 - A volunteer will be sought out to build a communal plot for the fruit shrubs; at which site it will be installed depends on the champion. If at Goldenrod, it will require NCC approval to build.
- 6. New business
 - Approve the list of '[Tasks available to volunteers](#)' before uploading to Google Drive
 - Parminder and Andrew need a generic email address for their projects
 - Friends of the Garden can volunteer too; Jane will ask her network of newcomers if they would be interested in volunteering
 - Approve the summary to be sent to Richcraft
 - Sara prepared a one-pager summary of the report; it will be approved by email by Board members after Diane has had a chance to fix the format that was jumbled by Google Docs
 - Approve the Member Survey summary; include a link to it in the February newsletter?
 - Highlights of the report will be presented in the newsletter, with a link to the full report that resides on the website
 - A decision was made to request a water delivery as soon as the tanks in Phase 2 are near empty, to address some complaints in the survey about water reliability
 - Inquire how other gardens deal with theft from humans and wildlife: Diane will post in Food Chat while Sara will check with Just Food
 - Will we install an outdoor literature holder at Bullman? (Diane)
 - Nothing can be nailed to the walls of the shed, perhaps it could be attached to the fence. Will be revisited at a later date
- 5. To note from Action items (below)

6. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at 7:30 pm

Update on past Action Items

Action	Assigned	Status
1. Andrew will finalize the bilingual compost sign	08-July-24	In progress
2. Diane will purchase safety vests that will help the gardeners identify Board members that wear them in the garden	28-Nov-24	Complete
3. Barbara suggested treating groups that rent a plot differently than individual gardeners next year; she presented the following proposal: Where a group is looking to take on more than 1 plot for their organisation, we could at the Board's discretion allow the group to take up to 2 plots based on: - Group successfully completes a season with a single plot - Group's aims align with our garden aims	28-Nov-24	March 2025

Upcoming business	Assigned	Date to revisit
1. Andrew will add a section on composting in the Standard Operating Procedures document	25-Mar-24	Winter
2. Parminder will update the FAQ sheet on the website	08-Oct-24	Winter
3. Parminder: Develop guidelines for SOP about Facebook management	09-Sep-24	Winter
4. Parminder will forward to the Board links to the bamboo dishware to be purchased for events as well as an estimated total price	09-Sep-24	Spring 2025
5. Board: Provide guidance in the Membership Agreement about height and safety of supporting structures (had an issue with the ski poles)	27-May-24	In progress
6. Board: Invest in second seating area near the main shed at Goldenrod	12-Aug-24	Spring 2025
7. Events Committee: Reach out to Allegra to organize a workshop on low maintenance gardening (water retention workshop)	25-Mar-24	Spring 2025
8. Events Committee: Look at compost under a microscope (Andrew)	25-Mar-24	Spring 2025
9. Properties: Contact local cafés to obtain ground coffee for the worms	29-Oct-24	Spring 2025
10. Diane will recreate the City's list of organizations that provide free meals, as the City declined to reinstate it	12-Jan-25	Spring 2025