

Goldenrod Community Garden

MINUTES

Board Meeting for 23 June 2025, 7:30 pm

Agenda:

1. Roll call: Sara C, Parminder D, Bryn L, Andrew M, Diane M, Barbara S
Regrets: Jane O, Kumari P, Tanya S
2. Adoption of the agenda: Adopted with the suggested changes
3. Review and approval of 27 May 2025 Minutes: Approved with the suggested changes
4. Reports from Committees:
 - a. President's report (Sara)
 - 2025-2026 certificate of insurance evidencing coverage effective 1 June 2025 has been received for both locations
 - Met with volunteers to kick off the fruit bed build at the Bullman garden. Additional wood will cost about \$200 plus tax; awaiting soil cost. Fruit bed approval from NCC expected in about two weeks but still wish to proceed with building the shared plot at Bullman and use the lessons learned for Goldenrod. It will consist of currant bushes and herbs, no strawberries which might attract the wildlife
 - Richcraft indicated compost is not to be left outside the fence, and a gate will not be installed on the west side to allow trucks to drive into the garden
 - Just Food informed that the NCC is waiting to see the French translation of the compost signs
 - Proposed a notice for the next newsletter to remind gardeners to keep their dogs leashed; the City does not provide signs to that effect
 - b. Treasurer's report (Tanya)
 - No report
 - c. Membership (Barbara)
 - One gardener at the Bullman garden is giving up their plot – waiting for confirmation before offering it to someone from the waiting list
 - Bryn will do a review of plots that were not planted by the June 21 deadline, then offers will be sent out to people on the waiting list
 - Bullman Google Group was created. Invitations went sent out rather than automatically adding people to the list, only two people have joined so far
 - Goldenrod Google Groups not yet set up
 - d. Properties – Build, Maintenance, Soil Building, Pollinator Gardens teams (Andrew)
(with support from: Sara for soil building, Bryn for pollinator gardens)
 - Volunteer Day – We are currently polling volunteers to determine when to hold the next Volunteer Day.
 - Water – We received our third delivery of water last week. All tanks are functional. Their coverings need repair

- Soil Building – Worm sightings have been infrequent, seen them twice this year. The first compost pile of the season was processed
 - Pollinator Gardens – Bryn is taking on the pollinator garden volunteers. Their events will coincide with the Properties Committee Volunteer Days
- e. Bullman Garden Properties Liaison (Kumari)
 - The Richcraft team uses a hose to water their plots, forcing other gardeners to wait to fill their water cans. Diane explained the predicament to Jesse, he said he'll approach gardeners when they arrive to offer to fill in their cans
 - Sara received an e-mail informing that the team will bring a splitter at every visit to enable two hoses to operate at the same time. Diane will remind them of it at their next encounter
- f. Communications (Parminder)
 - Members of the Communications Committee have a lot of ideas for updating the webpage, Instagram and Facebook
 - She is exploring with others a way to use her e-mail with the webpage; Andrew suggested investing in an account and password manager. Sara suggested he write up a proposal on which software he recommends
- g. Events (Parminder / Barbara / Sara)
 - There was a good turnout at the June 22 potluck considering the heat wave. The presentation on pruning and staking tomatoes was well received, it might be repeated at the next potluck
 - Another potential presentation topic would be 'Good Bugs, Bad Bugs'
- h. Garden Coordinators (Parminder / Diane)
 - No report

5. Carry forward agenda items

- a. Discussion required on how best to use the Property Google Group – The Google Group is currently set up for one-way communication from the web application. Andrews added Diane and Bryn as Managers of the Properties Google Group. He also added the Build and Pollinator volunteers as well
- b. Compost posters (approval and translations) – Approvals were received from the NCC. Will have the translated compost posters ready for review by the next Board meeting
- c. In regards to the President's Report about the Just Food policy on garden bed heights: Are we considering doing in-ground planting at Goldenrod? (Andrew) – *deferred*

6. New business

- Next Volunteer Day task and activity list, and event planning – Board members should forward to Andrew the list of tasks they want the volunteers to tackle. He will coordinate with Diane, Parminder and Bryn the possibility of having beverages available for the volunteers

7. To note from Action items (below)

- #2 in Upcoming business: Feeding the worms
 - Several volunteers have expressed interest in doing this. Next steps are to host a discussion and create a work plan.

8. Next meeting: Monday July 21, 2025 at 7:30 pm

Update on past Action Items

Action	Assigned	Status
1. Parminder will give a presentation on how to stake plants	11-Mar-25	Completed
2. Parminder will ask members who self-identified as experienced gardeners in their registration form to give a workshop	27-Mar-25	In progress
3. Parminder will contact Brewar Park Community Garden to inquire about the fencing around the plots	11-Mar-25	In progress
4. Bryn will check that Goldenrod plots were planted by the due date	27-May-25	Completed

Upcoming business	Assigned	Date to revisit
1. 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
2. Properties: Contact local cafés to obtain ground coffee for the worms	29-Oct-24	Spring 2025
3. Properties: Repair garden plots. Perhaps reach out to Nanny Goat Hill Community Garden to see how they proceeded	23-Jun-25	Fall 2025
4. [to be assigned] Investigate mini greenhouses for the winter (from the survey). Could suggest row cover until December and for early spring. Will revisit this in the fall	11-Mar-25	Fall 2025
5. Parminder will update the FAQ sheet on the website	08-Oct-24	Fall 2025
6. Parminder: Develop guidelines for SOP about Facebook management	09-Sep-24	Fall 2025
7. Barbara: Prepare separate registration forms for each garden site so that a different Board member can be responsible for the registration process at the Bullman garden	23-Apr-25	Fall 2025