

Goldenrod Community Garden

MINUTES

Board Meeting for 10 February 2025, 7:30pm

Agenda:

1. Roll call: Sara C, Parminder D, Andrew M, Diane M, Tanya S, Barbara S
Regrets: Jane O, Kumari P
2. Adoption of the agenda: Adopted
3. Review and approval of Minutes of 28 November 2024 and 30 January 2025: Approved with suggested changes
4. Reports from Committees:
 - a. Bullman Garden Liaison (Kumari)
 - Diane informed that Richcraft placed a lock on the Bullman gate
 - b. Communications (Parminder)
 - Parminder will forward the January newsletter to Sara for dispatch
 - A list of volunteers' email addresses was uploaded to the Communications folder
 - One volunteer specializes in social media
 - She will revive the Communications Committee in the near future
 - A QR code pointing to the garden's website was created and is stored in the Logo subfolder, Communications Committee folder, Google Drive
 - c. Events (Parminder / Barbara / Sara)
 - A draft version of the Events Calendar was uploaded to the Events Committee folder
 - d. Garden Coordinators (Parminder / Diane)
 - No report
 - e. Membership (Barbara)
 - The Membership Agreement and waiver for 2025 is being updated through e-mail correspondence with the Board members. The final version will be available for the next Board meeting
 - Sara informed that Diane is compiling the Membership Survey
 - f. Properties – Build, Maintenance, Soil Building, Pollinator Gardens teams (Andrew)
(with support from Diane for pollinator gardens)
 - Andrew shared the results of the Soil Building Survey and AGM slide with Akil (Box of Life).
 - 75% of respondents drop off only garden waste; most are confident they use the compost system adequately
 - Not enough gardeners are dropping off kitchen waste, there's room for improvement: develop standards, put up posters, hold workshops on soil building, use the newsletter to remind gardeners how to contribute kitchen waste
 - The vermicomposter is being fed only 25% of its capacity; we will reach out to nearby food venues in the spring to see if they can provide us with kitchen waste
 - g. Properties – Bullman (Kumari with support from Diane)
 - No report

- h. Treasurer's report (Tanya)
 - Tanya forwarded her final 2024 financial report and the draft budget for 2025
 - The fee for the 2025 plot rental will be \$50, applicable to both gardens. We are expected to break even but if there is a shortfall, it will come out of Surplus, not Special Projects
 - She will do a walkthrough with Andrew of the financial files as he is now her back-up
- i. President's report (Sara)
 - There's a question mark about how many plots Richcraft will retain this year – should know by mid-March after registration is complete
 - We may have access to fruit shrubs, which could be used in an experimental communal fruit plot – to be discussed at the next meeting
 - Sara will reach out to a former Board member in an attempt to fill in a vacant position

5. Carry forward agenda items

- List of volunteers to be uploaded to Google Drive by each Committee Lead (Sara)
 - Andrew will upload his in the spring, once the volunteers have signed up
- Wix now only allows one collaborator (Sara)
 - Wix changed their free account rules, now only one person can have access. Currently these are Parminder, Inbox, and Sara as they existed before the change
 - WordPress might be an alternative software for the garden's website
 - Barbara has access to the Inbox. She indicated that other people with Google workspace accounts could access it if they needed, as they have administrative privileges

6. New business

- Complete list of 'Tasks available to volunteers' in [admin_cws | Committees | General](#) (Diane)
 - Sara suggested that the list be kept on Google Drive and a link could be forwarded to members or community associations, as well as included in our newsletters so potential volunteers can see what our current needs are
 - There would be a contact e-mail for each board member for potential volunteers to contact

7. To note from Action items (below)

8. Next meeting: Tuesday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m.

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. Tanya will reach out to Kath to discuss the Alterna banking experience	25-Mar-24	Complete
4. 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group successfully completes a season with a single plot - Group's aims align with our garden aims 	28-Nov-24	In progress

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 will prepare a QR code for the Bullman sign	08-Oct-24	Complete
4. Parminder: Develop guidelines for SOP about Facebook management	09-Sep-24	Winter
5. 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
6. 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
7. Board: Invest in second seating area near the main shed at Goldenrod	12-Aug-24	Spring 2025
8. Events Committee: Reach out to Allegra to organize a workshop on low maintenance gardening (water retention workshop)	25-Mar-24	Spring 2025
9. Events Committee: Look at compost under a microscope (Andrew)	25-Mar-24	Spring 2025
10. Properties: Contact local cafés to obtain ground coffee for the worms	29-Oct-24	Spring 2025
11. 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