

# Goldenrod Community Garden

## MINUTES

### Board Meeting for 6 May 2025, 7:30pm

#### Agenda:

1. Roll call: Sara C, Parminder D, Bryn L, Diane M, Barbara S  
Regrets: Andrew M, Jane O, Kumari P, Tanya S
2. Adoption of the agenda: Adopted with the suggested change
3. Review and approval of 23 April 2025 Minutes: *Deferred*
4. Reports from Committees:
  - a. President's report (Sara)
    - Beaver Scouts are still on track for a May 21 visit
    - Added new registrants to Google Groups
    - Communication with Just Food: source for water delivery, heads-up on fruit garden
    - Consider from Just Food: "could you please let me know if Goldenrod has any additional proposals or ideas beyond this new shared bed, especially anything that may involve an expansion outside your current footprint (i.e. adding more raised garden beds) or the addition of new features over the next couple of years? Kate is currently working with the NCC to secure land use permits for community gardens on NCC land, and they are looking to gather this kind of information to get a sense of any longer-term plans the gardens may have."
    - Board discussion: What is a land use permit, would it give us permanent status? We could negotiate more space for 5-10 years down the road, once the Bullman garden has closed. A permanent water source is a priority before expanding. Just gathering thoughts for now, Sara will not reply to them just yet
    - Confirmation received from Richcraft during the meeting that the water will be turned on before the opening day
  - b. Treasurer's report (Tanya)
    - No report
  - c. Membership (Barbara)
    - Both garden sites are now full, there were 23 people on the waiting list
    - Priority goes to people living in the area rather than employees working at Tunney's Pasture
    - Committee Leads should reach out to their volunteers, they are writing to the Inbox to follow up on their offer as they have not been contacted yet
    - There was a high renewal rate from sliding scale gardeners; we should send them an e-mail to encourage them to obtain seeds donated by Just Food from a Board member
  - d. Properties – Build, Maintenance, Soil Building, Pollinator Gardens teams (Andrew)  
(with support from: Sara for soil building, Diane for pollinator gardens)
    - Straw was delivered to both gardens on May 1
    - Compost to be delivered to both gardens on May 10

- Water totes were hooked up and water delivery is scheduled for May 7
- e. Properties – Bullman Garden Liaison (Kumari and Diane)
  - No report
- f. Communications (Parminder)
  - The draft of the May newsletter is ready: will include a note about the opening day and the seedlings swap event; will check Just Food’s website for additional events.
  - Laura prepared a poster for the opening day, was posted on Facebook and the website. She has access to all GCG social media except Instagram
- g. Events (Parminder / Barbara / Sara)
  - Parminder will look at the list of all the people who volunteered for the Events Committee, she will soon set up a meeting with them. All communication will be done by e-mail
  - She will request permission from the Board by e-mail to spend \$70 on the purchase of seedlings for the seedlings swap
  - She volunteered to pick up the seedlings donated by Gaia Organic Seeds at the end of their sales season, around mid-June
- h. Garden Coordinators (Parminder / Diane)
  - Last year’s water delivery company is estimating the 2025 cost at \$725 per delivery (up from \$541) while the new one that was booked charges \$600
- 5. Carry forward agenda items
 

Garden opening

  - A review was conducted of the equipment required on opening day; compost and straw were delivered
  - A Facebook invitation was posted for both sites; Parminder will ask for volunteers to connect with the gardeners who don’t read e-mail
  - Tours of both gardens will be offered; Parminder will do an introduction on how to plant your plot at Bullman, while Bryn will do it at Goldenrod (11am and 1pm)
- 6. New business
  - How to handle people who indicated in their registration form that they require assistance, and those who identified as experienced gardeners who don’t mind mentoring (Diane)
    - People requiring assistance can post a request on Google Group
    - Experienced gardeners should be approached to see if there are workshops they would like to offer
  - Next year we should ask Just Food to give us the seeds in bulk, Board members or volunteers could convene in a meeting room to count them and label the packets.
- 7. To note from Action items (below)
- 8. Next meeting: Tuesday, May 27 at 7:30 pm

#### Update on past Action Items

Action	Assigned	Status
1. Jane will contact the City of Ottawa to obtain a No Smoking sign	11-Mar-25	Completed

2. Ensure that access when someone is not available is covered, i.e. what the process is for email, Square, etc. Sara and Tanya will discuss this offline; a backup person is required for the President and the Treasurer email account; Square, DropBox, Treasurer mail to be noted in the SOP – access will be given to Andrew, who is the Treasurer's backup	26-Mar-25	April 2025
3. Parminder will contact Nanny Goat Hill to inquire about the fencing around the plots	11-Mar-25	In progress

Upcoming business	Assigned	Date to revisit
1. Parminder will give a presentation on how to stake plants	11-Mar-25	In progress
2. 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
3. Board: Invest in second seating area near the main shed at Goldenrod	12-Aug-24	Spring 2025
4. Properties: Contact local cafés to obtain ground coffee for the worms [Is this still needed? Sara understood that the worms were getting too many coffee grounds. Awaiting Andrew's feedback – May 6]	29-Oct-24	Spring 2025
5. [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
6. Parminder will update the FAQ sheet on the website	08-Oct-24	Fall 2025
7. Parminder: Develop guidelines for SOP about Facebook management	09-Sep-24	Fall 2025
8. 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