

Goldenrod Community Garden Meeting – Aug 31, 2021

Topic: Goldenrod Community Garden Interim Board meeting

Present: Dietrich, Carmel, Bryn, Sara, Diane, Tanya

Regrets: Allegra, Al

Guest: Kamal Amouna

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- a. Motion: Tanya, approved

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Motion: Bryn, approved

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Follow-up from Friends of the Garden, etc.
 - i. As follow-up there are several issues:
 - 1. Email volunteers and current Friends to ask them to agree to the three GCG guidance documents (e.g. rules, bylaws agreement).
 - 2. In advance of email, update the JotForm, that refers to the three documents.
 - 3. Issue is that documents currently just written for plot members, not all points apply to Friends of the Garden.
 - ii. Suggestion to go through them and flag which items apply to plot versus friend members.
 - iii. Discussion of whether form amendments could be postponed until after AGM as there are several other known issues with current documents. These should be revised by the next GCG board (e.g. drug and alcohol use by-law).
 - iv. Agreement that current bylaws will not be approved at AGM and should be revised before March when plot renewal requests are sent out.
 - v. **Actions**
 - 1. Sara will draft the required updates to the three documents for Friends of the Garden and then send around via email for approval
 - 2. Dietrich will confirm the approved version of the bylaws and Sara will post to the website.
- b. **AGM PLANNING**
 - i. Dietrich will take on some planning work with Membership Engagement Committee with assistance, clarification of role of Membership Engagement Committee in AGM planning. Communications will go out through Sara

- ii. Discussion of potential facility
 - 1. Somerset willing to give us facility to use and they have Zoom facilities, haven't heard back from them
 - 2. Hintonburg Community Centre will give us space but not sure which room it will be
- iii. Discussion of whether meeting should be hybrid or entirely virtual with consensus to have hybrid model if possible
- iv. Agreement that Bryn will chair AGM
- v. Agreement RE Voting technology to accept paper ballots at AGM and electronic afterwards
- vi. **Action items**
 - 1. Bryn and Dietrich will talk, create list of what needs to be done and figure out who will do it
 - 2. Engagement Committee can look into how to implement hybrid meeting, technology led by Carmel
 - 3. Focus next interim board meeting on AGM

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Appointing an Elections Officer
 - i. Only one person expressed interest in the position: Evan Sterling, the current Mail Monitor. Potential candidates, such as Susan Harvey, have not yet been approached.
 - ii. A motion to approve Evan as Elections Officer was made by Tanya. Carmel seconded. Motion passed.
- b. Garden close up
 - i. Discussion about several items where communication to the members or training of the members is required (seeding with clover, use of pesticides or fungicides, what and how to compost, overuse of water, Leaf Mold and disposal of contaminated plant materials, maybe a fall cleanup day)
 - ii. **Action items**
 - 1. Tanya will write an article on composting. Gardeners will be informed to take home plant material that should not be added to the compost bins, e.g. tomatoes as they may be carriers of bacterial or fungal diseases.
 - 2. Carmel will develop meeting with the Engagement Committee where they will talk about how to close the garden, e.g. cover plots with straw. The invitation will be sent by e-mail and in the newsletter. Tanya will draft some communication, Sara will get it out.
- c. Payment Approval processes clarification: Resolved via email
- d. Photo consent form approval
 - i. Version 3 of the Photo Release Form was shared ahead of the meeting.
 - ii. A motion to approve the form as is was made by Diane, Sara seconded. Motion passed.
- e. Discussion about sending a survey not housed in the GCG account
 - i. The Engagement Committee prepared a survey to find out what gardeners want, what activities they would like to share with other

gardeners. If a volunteer from that committee sends it out, the data will not be available to anyone else but that person. The Membership Committee is finalizing a similar survey for the Visioning. Agreed that The Membership Committee and the Engagement Committee will team up to amalgamate the surveys and that they should be sent from the GCG account.

- f. Preliminary discussion on building more plots next year
 - i. There are currently 37 people on the Plot Waitlist. A decision to build or not will need to be made soon as it requires approval and financing by Just Food, pricing of material, lumber layaway, etc.

6. REPORTS OF OFFICERS/COMMITTEES

- a. Build
 - i. Dietrich informed that they will soon finish the ramp to the shed in order to make it accessible to the members.
- b. Membership
 - i. Diane inquired on Allegra's behalf if they were expected to make a presentation at the AGM. Consensus was that it is customary to prepare a brief report.
- c. Finance
 - i. Tanya sent a report by e-mail in mid-August, the situation is largely the same. Expenses to date are around \$25,000, with anticipated expenses of \$6,500. The projected balance will approximate \$10,000 at the end of the year.
- d. Fundraising
 - i. No report was offered on fundraising as Bryn had to leave at 8:00 pm.
- e. Communications
 - i. Sara sent her report by e-mail:
 - photo consent form has been awaiting approval
 - Will be welcoming two new volunteers
 - drafting a donors page in the website
- f. Membership Engagement
 - i. Prepared a survey, will look into a hybrid model for the AGM, and possibility of holding an online education session for the closing of the garden.

7. FEEDBACK FROM OUR GUEST

- a. Kemal (Kemo) participated as an observer as he is contemplating nominating himself for the upcoming Board of Directors election. He was asked about his impressions: he said it was very interesting, that passing motions and the likes was all new to him. He was reassured that he will learn these things as he goes, he's not expected to be familiar with the proceedings ahead of time.

ACTION ITEMS

- Sara will draft the membership updates required for the AGM to the three documents (bylaws, membership agreement, rules) and email to board for approval

- Tanya will write an article on composting.
- Tanya will forward some items of discussion to Carmel for the online education session for the closing of the garden.
- The Membership Committee and the Engagement Committee will team up to amalgamate their surveys.
- Carmel will investigate the possibility of having a hybrid AGM (what technology is available in the Hintonburg Community Centre's meeting room).
- Carmel will prepare an online education session for the closing of the garden.

CARRY FORWARD

Interim Board to make a decision soon concerning the build of additional plots next year. Diane to speed up the production of the Standard Operating Procedures manual to clarify the process with Just Food.