

Goldenrod Community Garden Meeting – June 22, 2021

Topic: Goldenrod Community Garden Interim Board meeting

Present: Allegra, Susan, Carmel, Amanda, Tanya, Dietrich, Diane, Bryn, Catherine, Al, Sara

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. MINUTES FROM JUNE 8 MEETING:

- Approved

3. REPORTS OF OFFICERS/COMMITTEES

● Build:

- Shed is nearly finished being built
- Home Depot order will be put in this week and then privacy screening will be put in over the weekend
- Remediation needs to be done on the accessible pathway and any ground damage caused by trucks. We can do this ourselves or we can wait for NCC. NCC might take a long time to take action on this. This question is being passed on to the Build Committee to decide upon how to proceed.

● Membership:

- Friends of the Garden: email going out to anyone associated with the garden.
- Still unfilled plots: 8 plots total, all have been contacted. Rules specify July 1st deadline to plant.
- Currently 13 people on the waitlist. Website has now switched over to collecting names for 2022 list.

● Finance

- Total expenditure to date is approximately \$19,000. Total income to date: \$25,668 from Just Food, additional donations almost \$17,000 including gift cards. Financial situation is currently healthy.

● Fundraising

- Catherine is stepping down from Board role, but continuing with fundraising efforts.

● Communications

- Garden opening: Catherine McKenna and Joel Harden have confirmed, as well as Allegra. Jeff Leiper not confirmed yet. Volunteer videographer and Susan will be on site to prepare official opening video.
- Newsletter has been circulated. If there are messages to go out to membership in future newsletters, there's a document on Google Drive where they can be collected and then will be sent out weekly. Sara emailed Board information on the process.
- Facebook group is operating, can't be made invisible but it is private. Moderators will check group members against the list of garden members if it seems necessary.
- Website: will add a link for people to join as a Friend of the Garden. Communications added a note to the website seeking volunteers and were contacted by a photographer offering to add photos.
- The garden sign has been ordered, when ready, will pass to the Build Committee to install.
- President
 - NCC says don't cut the grass around the trees to protect the roots. Suggestion that we build seating such as a gazebo or bench instead. Will discuss in the future.
 - Garden opening - Just Food and NCC want to participate. Just Food will coordinate with NCC to determine a date.
 - Just Food would like to interview longstanding Board members about "lessons learned."
 - Insurance company through the city has been changed and some community gardens have to re-apply. It seems we are still insured, but Susan will confirm.
 - Confirmed that Just Food is supportive of phase 2 build and will potentially provide more funding.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Straw bales:
 - \$5/bale from a farm in Stittsville. Diane put forward a motion to buy 20 bales. Motion passes.
 - Include a note in the newsletter for people to help themselves to mulch their gardens.
- Illegal plants in the garden:
 - Putting this topic aside for now. We will address this in the future if needed.

- Non-profit registration:
 - We are not eligible for charity status. There does not seem to be a benefit to registering as a non-profit at this time, therefore no motion to register.
 - AGM/visioning:
 - Need to put this on our radar if we want to make sure that this happens in the fall. This initial conversation can happen with the Membership Committee and members who expressed interest in volunteering for events, and we can make this a bigger part of a future meeting. Allegra and Sara will start the conversation and then bring it back to the Board.
6. OTHER ITEMS:
- Plot numbers are blowing away. Build Committee has leftover wood blocks that could be numbered and fixed to the plots. Al will help to coordinate this.

ACTION ITEMS

- Al and Build Committee will re-number the plots.
- Susan will confirm that the garden is still insured through the city's new insurance provider.
- Diane will coordinate the purchase of straw bales.