

APPROVED

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Wednesday, April 2, 2014. 6:30- 8:00 PM

Minutes Submitted by: L. Zaimis, Recording Secretary backup

Present:

- Maja Bucan/Scott Poethig (I-1)
- Margie Cole (G-7)
- Carol Eaton (E-7)
- Lois Evans (Chair)(E-6)
- Nicole Gortian (J-6)
- Christine Guiliano (G-2)
- Wayne Rosenberger (Treasurer) E-5)
- Jim Wells (J-7)
- Linda Zaimis (K-5)

Not Present:

- Chris Henningsen (E-2)
- Cecily Kihn (Secretary) (K-3)
- Michele Langer/Alan Cohen (C-7)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order, Introductions, & Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the March 5, 2014 meeting reviewed and approved ff. Motion by Christine, seconded by Jim. Minutes of the March 27, 2014 special meeting following the Annual Meeting reviewed and approved ff Motion by Scott, seconded by Carol. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of March 27 were reviewed for accuracy; no changes were recommended.	Cecily will post on website and garden BB. The Annual Meeting minutes will be presented to all Gardeners for review and approval at the March, 2015 Annual Meeting. Lois will prepare updated sets of materials for SC notebooks. Lois will confirm that the SC email list is current.
Treasurer’s Report	Wayne Rosenberger presented the Extended Budget 3/1/2013 – 6/30/2014. Only small expenditures for supplies have been incurred since the last meeting.	Wayne will distribute current report via email and also submit budgets and financial reports to CCRA.
Chair’s Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lois Evans reported that Cecily Kihn has been appointed Secretary with Linda Zaimis as backup. • We received the delivery of 10 yards of mushroom compost. It will be used for Parkside Plantings and Gardeners are also welcome to take some for their plots. • The water has been turned on. • One of our recent Gardeners, Judy Kornfeld, had previously arranged a discount for our Gardeners with Gardener’s Supply and has agreed to confirm that the discount is still valid. 	If still valid, Lois will notify Gardeners with the discount code.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Six of the 21 new/returning Gardeners have attended orientation. Two more orientations are scheduled: April 5 and April 12. • Two groups requested permission to borrow some of our tools: FSRP and FSRP Tree Tenders. • Lois sent a thank you note to John Randolph for his presentation on the Schuylkill River Trail at the Annual Meeting. • The Garden has been given a gift of miscellaneous tools from a neighbor's father. • Lois received a letter from David Rose, VP of Physical Environment for CCRA. Mr. Rose has offered to serve as a resource re: issues facing the Community Garden. • Lois is now the administrator for the Garden's Facebook page. The Facebook page can be accessed via the Garden's website; gardeners can join, but one does not need to have a Facebook account to visit it. • Some of the information on the website has gotten out-of-date. • Garden Goal Setting – The steering Committee brainstormed ideas for new goals for the Garden related to 'building and maintaining community.' (1) Some sort of permanent display located outside the Garden with the Garden's history and some photos for the public to learn more about the Garden; (2) More explanation of history of Garden Rules & how to explore changes; (3) Ways for new gardeners to get information about gardening (e.g., list of experienced gardeners willing to act as mentors, using Garden Facebook or updating website with useful links); (4) Linking our garden with others in the region; (5) How to make the Garden more age-friendly for both children and elders, possibly having a wheelchair accessible plot; (6) Review & update information postcards in the bulletin board holder. 	<p>Joan has agreed to follow up with remaining new gardeners. Lois has let them know they can borrow the tools.</p> <p>Joan Wells has typed an inventory and CCRA will send an acknowledgement.</p> <p>Lois will meet with Derek Freres re: updating the website's calendar and posting minutes.</p> <p>The Steering Committee will continue the dialogue, and begin to address these ideas throughout the year.</p> <p>Lois will explore with Philadelphia Corporation for Aging age friendly suggestions appropriate for a community garden.</p>
Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Harvest-Linda reported that 16 Gardeners volunteered to "host" a plant in their plot for City Harvest. The first distribution of City Harvest seedlings is April 5th. • Education- Nicole reported a consensus from the Annual Meeting education surveys for Wednesday evening and Sunday workshops, with topics leaning toward winter related topics. The first workshop will be held April 25th on preparing window boxes, led by Grace Wicks of Graceful Gardens. 	<p>Linda will supply the plant and a specially marked cage and harvest only from that plant in the Gardener's plot for CH; she will make signup sheets available at Clean-Up Day for Gardeners who missed the Annual Meeting. Nicole will host this workshop, with Michele/Alan. Announcements have been sent out & will be repeated.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilities- Chris has been asked to purchase the following items for the Garden: new picnic table umbrella, new barbeque grill covers, more rat poison. • Garden Chores- Cecily reported most of the weekly slots have been filled through mid-July. • Ladybug Release Party- scheduled for May 22nd. • Parkside Plantings-Joan Wells inspected the Garden borders and identified places that need new plantings. She has asked an arborist and rose expert for advice for types of plants to purchase and has ordered several plants for planting on Spring Work Day. • Plot Use-The Garden’s Rules and Regulations stipulate that “Any plot not gardened actively by the first of May will be deemed abandoned and transferred to the next eligible party on the waiting list.” • Public Plot-Margie reported that all 5 plots have been assigned. • Waiting List Plantings-Christine reported that all 10 slots have been filled and 2 alternates chosen to be assigned if necessary. • Waiting/Transfer/Plot Assignment Lists-Jim reported that one more plot needs to be assigned. • Workday Refreshments-Carol consulted with Joan to determine what supplies need to be purchased. • Workday Supervision – Maya has a checklist of chores 	<p>SC members to help identify at least one more Gardener –not necessarily a SC member--to help with Facilities management committee. Cecily will have the signup sheet available at Work Day. Lois will post a new chore list on the bulletin board. Maya will co-host with Shelby Fraser and Jacoba Zaring. Lois will send out the announcement.</p> <p>Chris will monitor the garden plots and wait-list plots for activity.</p> <p>Christine will provide the Garden orientation. Jim will continue down the waiting list to fill the plot. Carol will pick up supplies. Possible volunteer helpers were identified. Margie will assist with the chore assignments and Lois will be in charge of signing in the Gardeners.</p>
Old Business	None	
New Business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Next Steering Committee Meetings, May 7, 6:30 PM 2. Reminder: Required Spring Work Day, Saturday, April 12, 9-1 pm. 	

Recorded by Linda Zaimis, Alternate Notetaker

Approved by the Steering Committee on May 7, 2014