

## Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

**Markward Recreation Center**

**Wednesday, June 5, 2013. 7:00-7:55 PM**

**Minutes Submitted by:** L. Evans, Recording Secretary

**Present:** Lois Evans  
 Mark Gamba  
 Christine Guillano  
 Chris Henningsen

Michele Langer  
 Wayne Rosenberger  
 Joan Wells

**Not Present:** Nicole Gortian  
 Al Kelman  
 Cecily Kihn  
 Doug Ross  
 Jim Wells

**Next Meeting:** July 3

| Agenda Item                      | Discussion   | Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline   |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Call to order & Minutes Approval | April 3 meeting minutes reviewed. NOTE: No May meeting.  | Approved unanimously. Lois Evans to post on website and garden bulletin board.   |
| Treasurer's Report               | To date, only \$674 has been spent from the \$9608 operating budget.   |  |
| Chair's Report                   | Dick Atkins has contributed 4 new hibiscus plants in memory of his mother; a thank you note has been sent. Other contributions by gardeners include gift of food for the Garden Work Day (Barbara Spitz and Cheryl Cook). See New business for additional reports. She will order compost to arrive in time for the July work day.   | Joan will send written notes to these other contributors.  |
| Committee Reports                | <p><b>City Harvest:</b> 40 lb. of produce has been contributed to date.</p> <p><b>Education:</b> Fourteen gardeners attended the recent workshop on fertilizing given by waitlist gardener Bob Weiss; his presentation, handout, and Q&amp;A session were well received. Michele will ask Tim Bennett to speak on composting in late June; in addition, she will explore with PHS a workshop on weeds.</p> <p><b>Facilities:</b> Anthony Stuempfig has repaired the umbrella and it should last one more year. Dane Wells is working on wagon repairs. There has been no further feedback from the Small Dog Park regarding placement of rat bait boxes.</p> <p><b>Garden Chores:</b> No report. The process appears to be working well; to date, only one gardener has asked to reschedule a work week.</p> <p><b>Ladybug Release Party:</b> Shelby Fraser (previous SC member) continues to host the annual Lady Bug Release party. This year's event (5/23/2013) was well attended. Expenses were reduced as Shelby was able to reuse some materials purchased last year, and food was donated by two volunteers: Jacoba Zaring and Nadine Biles.</p> | <p>Joan will send a thank you note to Bob. Michele will arrange for speakers; Joan will send notice of hold-date to gardeners. As appropriate, web links to PHS work-shops or talks of interest to gardeners will be posted; likewise, the community [through CCRA] will be invited to SRPCG presentations.</p> <p>SC expressed appreciation for the work of these volunteers.</p> <p>Joan to send thank you notes to Shelby Fraser, Jacoba Zaring and Nadine Biles.</p> |

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|              | <p><b>Plot Use:</b> After discussion, only a few plots were identified as potentially needing tending or reminders re: allowable plants.</p> <p><b>Parkside Plantings:</b> An extra work session was attended by ~20 gardeners who completed current tasks. Alison Rulon-Miller, former gardener and SC member, has developed a report of all plantings by bed. Placing plant labels on plants and shrubs for the benefit of gardeners and the general public was discussed.</p> <p><b>Waiting List Plantings</b> (aka Tomato Trials): All leases and checks have been received. Two of ten awarded spaces not taken will be reassigned.</p> <p><b>Waiting/Transfer List:</b> As of June 3, there are 44 on the Waiting List and 1 on the Transfer List.</p>  | <p>Joan will speak with relevant gardeners.</p> <p>Joan will send a thank you note to Alison. She will pursue assistance from a retired landscape architect to construct a schematic showing plant placement. Mark volunteered to obtain metal labeling tags.</p> |
| Old Business | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Report on April 11 meeting with CCRA President Jeff Braff &amp; Treasurer Charles Robin: Joan &amp; Wayne reported that this was a very good meeting. The request for a separate SRPCG checking account was not supported; to better manage account reconciliation, SRPCG will change its fiscal year to coincide with CCRA (7/1-6/30).</li> <li>2. Repayment to CCRA: Michele moved to authorize the Treasurer to transfer \$1500 to CCRA towards repayment of the promised Babette Josephs grant that was never received. This will be first of three payments and will come from the SRPCG capital account. Seconded by Chris Henningsen and approved unanimously.</li> <li>3. Status of \$2,000 owed to our Capital Account from CCRA: CCRA still owes SRPCG \$500 from last year.</li> </ol> | <p>Wayne to develop report and 2014 budget to match new reporting periods, using currently approved funds.</p> <p>Wayne will follow up.</p> <p>Wayne will confirm status of transferred funds and report back.</p>  |
| New Business | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Request to use garden for commercial photographic project: Request reviewed. After discussion, the SC affirmed the appropriateness of the garden's use for photographic sessions (so long as a gardener is present), but not endorsement by SRPCG of any project or vendor.</li> <li>2. Philadelphia Parks Alliance: A request to join the PPA was discussed. This is an advocacy group comprised of a city-wide coalition of park supporters. Similarly, the appropriateness of joining PHS was raised.</li> <li>3. Planning for next Steering Committee scheduled for Wednesday, July 3.</li> <li>4. <b>Reminder: Required Summer Work Day Saturday, July 13, 9 am to 1 pm.</b></li> </ol>  | <p>Joan will communicate this decision to the requester.</p> <p>Wayne will check website for PPA and Chris will check Fidler Square's experience with PHS for discussion at July meeting. The meeting will be held as scheduled.</p>                              |

Approved July 3, 2013