

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Thursday, November 7, 2019 7:00- 8:10 PM

Minutes Submitted by: Steve Slaterbeck (H-6)

Present: Maja Bucan (J-9), Lillian Cohen (E-2), Jerry Faich(I-1), Mary Lou Gross (I-2), Al Kelman(J-8), Pat Rohlfing(G-1) , Steve Slaterbeck (H-6), Katie Tremont (A-1), John Wagner (K-3), Linda Zaimis (K-5) , Gino Insana (A2) prospective committee member, and Susan Kahn(J-6) CCRA representative

Not Present: Mike Kihn (B-1)

Recorded by Steve Slaterbeck, Secretary. Approval by the Steering Committee by email since there was no quorum on **TUESDAY December 3, 2019.**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order & Approval of Minutes	There were no further comments on the minutes for October. Motion to accept made and seconded. October and November meetings were on first Thursday. We'll revert back to first Tuesdays in December.	Approved by unanimous vote. Steve: Post October minutes on bulletin board and on website
Treasurer's Report	Katie provided 2019 Expense tracking sheet current through November 7. Expenses this period: Rittenhouse Hardware \$33.15. No Revenue. Carryover: Travis confirmed that CCRA paid 3 checks to SRPCG (October 27 2018, April 3 2019, May 11 2019). Travis had previously provided our bank statements for November – April, the months after Joan's exit. Steve attempted to reconcile. April 3 deposit doesn't appear on bank statement. Carryover: Discussed building up a reserve of at July 2018 meeting, writing grants for big expenditures such as plumbing, shed repair (Mike volunteered Cecily).	Katie: Pay bill. All: All reimbursement forms should be sent to Katie Tremont and cc the Steering Committee. Katie will send reimbursement forms and receipts to Travis. Steve: Follow up with Travis to reconcile and establish quarterly payment schedule (Michele had suggested first of January, April, July, October).
New Business	CCRA: Susan Kahn was installed as CCRA board member liason to the garden. Welcome Susan! New committee member: The committee unanimously approved Gino Insana as our newest committee member. Welcome Gino!	

	<p>Shaded Plots: After their first season, gardeners routinely request transfer from shady plots J1, G1, H1. Maja determined that shade from 1998 study was not much different than shade from 2019 study (perhaps due to cherry trees that have since been removed, and taller ilex hedges). Ilex can be pruned any time.</p> <p>Since our last meeting, Susan informed us that FSRP hired Hinge Collective to help develop a park-wide master plan. As part of this effort, this fall Hinge is conducting a survey of park users to identify features of the park that can be improved or preserved, and FSRP has asked for gardeners to participate. Steve suggested this would be a good opportunity to address the shade issue in the masterplan.</p> <p>Carry over: We may consider a presentation on partially shaded gardens at the annual meeting and have list of vegetables and flowers that do not need sun all the time.</p>	<p>Jerry: Add ilex pruning as a spring work day task.</p> <p>Susan: As FSRP (as well as CCRA liason), keep the group apprised of the two FSRP stakeholder meeting dates (not yet scheduled) so that gardeners might attend, and coordinate with Maja so she can meet separately with Hinge Collective.</p> <p>Maja: Meet with Hinge Collective to discuss garden shade concerns as part of the park masterplan.</p> <p>Steve: Provide John with email including link to survey to send to all gardeners.</p> <p>John: Send survey email to gardeners.</p> <p>Maja: Consult with Seedway employee friend for a list of veggies that thrive in shade/partial shade, and to possibly donate leftover seeds for gardeners and for City Harvest.</p>
Committee Reports	<p>Plot Assignments: John reported 67 now on waiting list.</p> <p>Of 12 lottery plot requests, 1 is ineligible (outside of catchment). Agreed we should send an acknowledgement email to those 11.</p> <p>Plot Use: Contacted 3 non-compliant plot holders (mint, tree, low soil level). No reponse. Meredith (K2), who is cycling out has pollinator plants available.</p> <p>City Harvest: Linda reported 1487 pounds delivered to date, an all-time season record.</p> <p>Facilities: Cistern leaks slightly when turned off. Some gardeners report difficulty turning on. Linda shared combo for electric box lock.</p>	<p>John: Answer one gardener's email re CCRA dues.</p> <p>Maja: Provide Steve with revised plot map to label 25th Street and the dog park, and numbered tomato plots.</p> <p>Steve: Post revised map on web site.</p> <p>Maja: Write email draft acknowledgement.</p> <p>Al: Identify plots that need attention (eg tree removal, low soil level) and contact those plot holders. Send email to B2E.</p> <p>John/Jerry: Approach One Riverside about transplanting on their property.</p> <p>Mike: Have Frankie of John Bee Plumbing investigate when he turns the water off and drains for the season.</p>

	<p>Chores: No report.</p> <p>Work Day: Three plot holders missed 2 work days B2E, D1, C2. Discussed offering their plots/ removing names from waiting list. Jerry to follow up with 18 gardeners who need to do make up Fall Work Day tasks.</p> <p>Gloria Day work day education Fall Garden Management program was well attended and well received. Work day education program format, our third (Fall '18, Spring '19, Fall ,19), has been successful.</p> <p>Carryover: Regarding changing gardener commitment rule for next year from 3 mandatory work days, and optional annual meeting attendance to choice 3 out of 4 (3 work days no annual meeting attendance, OR 2 of 3 work day plus annual meeting attendance). This would require change to Guidelines and Rules, and approval by the Steering Committee.</p> <p>Parkside Plantings: Hydrangea was identified in the shade discussion above. Plum tree for north side of main walkway.</p> <p>Grape vines on north and west look sick. Will wait and see if they come back next season. Scraped 200 plus lantern fly egg masses at work day. Potted plants in cistern area.</p> <p>Website/Email/Facebook: Steve keeping website updated. All emails from Steering Committee go through John who sends through Wild Apricot, with Steve and Linda as proof readers. Katie posts activities on Facebook.</p> <p>Community/Children Events: No report.</p>	<p>Jerry: Follow up with 18 delinquent gardeners with Fall Work Day make up assignments. Volunteering for Love Your Park on November 9, Tree Tenders November 16, clear mud outside garden, can satisfy make up for missed Fall Work Day. Steve: Post Gloria Day's handouts on the website. All: Continue Spring and Fall education programs (and not Summer due to mid-day temps).</p> <p>All: Read Steve's draft of revised Guidelines and Rules for discussion at next meeting.</p> <p>Mary Lou: Will work with Scott to prune hydrangeas in March. Mary Lou: Order dwarf plum as pollinator for existing plum to plant in March.</p> <p>Linda: Host remaining hibiscus over the winter.</p> <p>Steve: Add 2018 Spring, 2019 Spring, Summer, Fall, work day photos.</p>
	<p>Next Steering Committee TUESDAY, December 3, 7pm.</p>	<p>All: Think about prospects for the Steering Committee.</p>

Approval by Steering Committee by email since there was not quorum at meeting on **TUESDAY December 3, 2019.**