

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Tuesday, September 3, 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), John Wagner (K-3), , Steve Slaterbeck (H-6), Katie Tremont (A-1), Linda Zaimis (K-5) , and Michele Ettinger - CCRA representative

Not Present: Mary Lou Gross (I-2), Al Kelman(J-8), Mike Kihn (B-1), Pat Rohlfing(G-1)

Recorded by Steve Slaterbeck, Secretary. Approval by the Steering Committee **THURSDAY October 3, 2019.**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order & Approval of Minutes	There were no further comments on the minutes for August. Motion to accept made and seconded. October and November meetings will be on first Thursday. We'll revert back to first Tuesdays in December.	Approved by unanimous vote. Steve: Post August minutes on bulletin board and on website
Treasurer's Report	Katie reported. The June Rittenhouse Hardware expenses of \$104-and \$35- were submitted to Travis on July 3rd. CCRA cut \$139 total check to Katie who in turn wrote a check in that amount to Rittenhouse Hardware. 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).	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: Create February, March, April, May Financial Reports. Follow up with Travis to reconcile and establish quarterly payment schedule (Michele suggested first of January, April, July, October).
New Business	CCRA/CSX treatment of weeds West of the garden: Michele clarified: CCRA President Maggie Mund emailed Rodney Oglesby (CSX) to request notification 3 days before they treat the area outside the garden. Committee asks what herbicide they will use. No response so CCRA board member Matthew Fontana followed up only to learn Rodney no longer at CSX. Await response.	

	<p>Shaded Plots: After their first season, gardeners routinely request transfer from shady plots J1, G1, H1. Other shady plots were also mentioned. Maja created a Power Point with a Shade Map created on June 28, 2019. She also showed a shade map of the SRPCG created by the Steering committee in 1998 that she found in the SRPGC archives. Based on the current shade map, there are parts of the garden that are more in shade than others but every garden plot gets full sun for at least 4 hours. We may consider trimming more the bushes in Parkside planting to reduce shade in a few plots. Discussed approaching Fairmount Park about pruning.</p>	<p>Maja: Create a shade map on Tuesday September 17 to compare shaded areas now and 20 years ago (Maja at 8am, 10am, 6pm; Linda at noon; Steve at 2pm; Lillian at 4pm). 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. 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. Lillian to transfer lottery and tomato plot management to Maja starting 2020 season. Discussed ways to promote lottery plot availability/catchment area. Currently we post on gate in February, and distribute fliers. It's also posted on the website under "Obtaining a Plot." Other suggestions: post at Rittenhouse Hardware, in the 3 Schuylkill River Park Kiosks, on Facebook; post before February.</p> <p>Plot Use: No report. City Harvest: Linda reported 1079 pounds delivered to date.</p> <p>Facilities: Cistern leaks slightly when turned off. Some gardeners report difficulty turning on. Group decided no stones and compost delivery necessary for Fall Work Day. Should be plenty of compost in the compost bin for gardeners who are cycling out. Mike reported by email that he will re-set the gate pin holder in the pavement at the east gate when he returns.</p> <p>Chores: No report.</p>	<p>Maja: Provide Steve with revised plot map to label 25th Street and the dog park, and numbered tomato plots. Steve: Post revised map on web site. Steve: Double check web site for lottery plot offer wording.</p> <p>Mike: Have Frankie of John Bee Plumbing investigate when he turns the water off and drains for the season.</p>

	<p>Work Day: Of 20 gardeners who need to do make up Summer Work Day tasks, 4 have responded. Jerry continues to follow up with those. Discussed stressing to gardeners their obligation as part of this volunteer community; not satisfying obligations has consequences. Discussed 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. Fall Work Day is November 2, 9am.</p> <p>Parkside Plantings: Some gardeners expressed concern about shadow cast by taller hedges. Plum tree for north side of main walkway.</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: Markward T'ai Chi program – 9 classes starting 6:30 Tuesday September 24 is at capacity with 15 enrolled. Program will be offered again in the winter and spring.</p>	<p>Jerry: Follow up with 16 delinquent gardeners with Summer Work Day make up assignments, to include weeding paths and ready-to-use compost. Volunteering for Love Your Park on November 9 can satisfy make up for missed Fall Work Day (which is November 2).</p> <p>Steve: Prepare draft of Guidelines and Rules for discussion at next meeting.</p> <p>Katie: Look into presenter for Fall Work Day.</p> <p>Jerry: Talk to Ted Reed, Mike Kihn, Scott Fearington for advice on trimming hedges by 8-10 inches. Mary Lou: Bring plum tree options to our October meeting.</p> <p>Steve: Add Spring, Fall, Summer work day photos.</p>
	<p>Next Steering Committee THURSDAY, October 3, 7pm.</p>	<p>All: Think about prospects for the Steering Committee, particularly for a designated treasurer.</p>

Approval by Steering Committee **THURSDAY October 3, 2019.**