

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Wednesday, September 4, 2013. 7:00-7:50 PM

Minutes Submitted by: L. Evans, Recording Secretary

Present: Lois Evans
 Nicole Gortian
 Christine Guiliano
 Al Kelman
 Michele Langer & Alan Cohen
 Doug Ross/Joyce Frye
 Jim Wells
 Joan Wells (Chair)

Not Present: Mark Gamba
 Chris Henningsen
 Cecily Kihn
 Wayne Rosenberger (Treasurer)

Next Meeting: November 6, 2013

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order & Approval of Minutes	Minutes of the August 7 meeting reviewed and approved.	Lois will post on website and garden BB.
Treasurer’s Report	Written report received and reviewed.	Joan will ask Wayne for brief clarifications. Joan will order half load of quarry fines for fall use in garden pathways.
Chair’s Report	<p>Harvest Supper: Joan reported best attendance ever in recent years; well received by those present.</p> <p>Rose care: Mika Tsekoura working on both types of roses with Joan.</p> <p>Review of Lease Agreement: Need for review of agreement prior to new year.</p>	<p>Appreciation expressed for Mika’s help.</p> <p>Michele agreed to review; Joan will send concerns.</p>
Committee Reports	<p>City Harvest: Jim reported a total of 644 lb. to date; Linda expects to exceed last year’s 700 lb. by end of harvest season, attributable to access to portions of 14 gardeners’ plots for this purpose.</p> <p>Education: Michele and Nicole reported that there were few in attendance for presentation by Dana Perella (Philadelphia DPH) on Lyme Disease and West Nile Virus. Nicole provided a tentative list of topics for remainder of 2013 and 2014.</p>	<p>Suggestion of providing opportunity for gardeners to pre-arrange donation of ripe produce while away will be added to the continuing discussion regarding how to handle over-ripening produce that both goes to waste and also attracts rodents (see August minutes).</p> <p>Michele will provide key points likely of interest to gardeners for Joan to post to gardeners; brochures provided by DPH will be made available on the bulletin board. Nicole and Michele will work on one last workshop (Sept. or Oct.) focused on ‘Extending the Growing Season/Fall Crops’</p>

	<p>Facilities: No current needs; wagons may be needed for next year.</p> <p>Garden Chores: Going well.</p> <p>Plot Use: Four plots have inadequately dealt with their mint problem.</p> <p>Parkside Plantings: Joan reported that she will remain active with this project next year, and hopes that Mika and Carol Eaton will continue as well.</p> <p>Waiting List Plantings (aka Tomato Trials): All going well.</p> <p>Waiting/Transfer List:- As of 4 September, Waiting List - 50; transfer List - 1. Twelve plots will be available next year.</p>	<p>As some of these are gardeners who will vacate their plots this fall, they will be reminded that thorough clean-up is required.</p>
Old Business	<p>Garden hoses: These have been removed and stored in the shed.</p> <p>Proposed apartment building just north of Garden: Joan reported from her attendance at the Civic Design Review Board meeting on September 3. The 20 story project received approval to go forward. Concerns were raised re: the south façade, pedestrian and traffic safety and maintenance. Concerned Neighbors will meet with an attorney this week to explore options.</p>	
New Business	<p>Planning for succession: Joan reminded the SC that three members (Joan, Doug, & Al) will rotate out of the garden next year.</p> <p>October Steering Committee Meeting: Cancelled. Next meeting will be November 6.</p> <p>Required Fall Work Day Reminder: Saturday, November 2, 10 AM to 2 PM.</p>	<p>Suggestions for new members (at least three) and volunteers for serving as Chair will be discussed at the November meeting. Transfer of procedures (e.g., use of <i>iContact</i>, the waiting list) need to be managed before the end of the Garden Year. Business will be handled via email.</p>

Approved by Steering Committee 11/06/13