

**BEN FRANKLIN COMMUNITY GARDEN  
MINUTES OF GARDEN OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date:** August 16, 2017

**Location:** OBCDC

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Terry opened the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

In attendance:

Committee members – Jennifer Terry, Mark Tapajna, Mary Ellen Stasek, Elicia Polacek, John Jenkins, Joe Jerdonek, Ken Keckler, Dave Kuebler, Laura Stahl, Lisa Young

Staff – Greg Noeth

Guest – Paul Kazmierczak

**Minutes:**

Dave moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting and Ken seconded. Minutes were approved as submitted.

**Treasurers Report:**

Reports from the current and previous months were presented. [REDACTED] balance. Jennifer reported on honey sales. Ken moved to accept; John seconded. Approved.

**Garden Coordinator:**

Greg reported that parking is back to normal. Gardeners want to keep Tampa gate open so new lock purchased.

2 supers of honey picked; 20 frames of honey waiting to be extracted. Discussed extractor requirements.

Former headmaster of Gilmour Academy visited and reported amazement at size of area and number of volunteers. Some produce will go to a donation center of his group.

Still looking for hunger center drivers.

Rust Belt Riders has not been in evidence.

We need a new ladder. Elicia moved to allocate ca. \$200 and John seconded. Approved.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee:**

No report. Jennifer noted that we will need a new t-shirt.

**Projects Committee:**

Mark reported on rods and fishing line for the fence. Asked lumber seller for 12 posts.

**Governance Committee:**

Discussion of updating of procedures and archive of revisions.

**Communications:**

Harvest Picnic: Lisa will attend to supplies and a volunteer list will be posted.

**Old Business:**

Thanks extended to Kim Repinski for a great job on the County Fair exhibit. We placed 2nd. Next year we might consider a plot designated for the fair entry.

Bins for shed have been purchased and items organized.

**New Business:**

Harvest Picnic: postcards were printed.

Clambake: OBCDC's Julie working on flyer; Google phone number 216-446-5155; Ticketbud will be online ticket agent; discussion of offsetting online ticketing fee by charging more for steak choice; still looking for brewery for beer; John working on arrangement with Vino Veritas for wine; OBCDC is filing for alcohol permit; still looking at tent possibilities; Joe will print tickets.

Garden closing: volunteer hours added to checkout form; considering a survey.

Garden monitoring: discussion of problem plots/paths.

Marketing ideas: sign for Tampa side; waiting list signup in shed; email grow@benfranklincommunitygarden.org currently forwards to the gmail account; informational pamphlet; "art in the garden" event; tables at other community events; open house; access for OBCDC to our social media.

Possibility of raised perennial plots. Location and access are some issues. Will survey.

Need to evaluate unused equipment and look at retention/disposal.

Sept. 16th is next Saturday coffee with gardener Kasper demonstrating starting seeds with milk jugs outdoors.

**Guest:**

Paul Kazmierczak discussed sustainability issues of the Garden, noted funding as a challenge, and suggested we look at foundation grants.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Next meeting will be September 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Garden.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek  
Secretary