

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

Date: December 20, 2017

Location: OBCDC

Call to Order: Chair Jennifer Terry called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

In attendance:

Committee members – Jennifer Terry, Ken Keckler, Mary Ellen Stasek, Elicia Polacek, John Jenkins, Joe Jerdonek, Dave Kuebler, Lisa Young, Mike Rompala

Staff – Greg Noeth

Absent committee members: Laura Stahl, Steve Morris

Minutes:

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

Treasurers Report:

\$ [REDACTED] was the reported balance. John moved to accept; Dave seconded. Approved.

Sub-Committee Reports

Garden Coordinator:

Greg reported that he is still getting the Garden ready for winter. The three compost bins are full of leaves. The Schools have asked if they supply more leaves. Two bins from the other six will be emptied and positioned for spreading in the spring.

The Rust Belt Riders are still supposed to be coming; they have a contract with Key Bank.

Finance Committee:

No report.

Projects Committee:

No report.

Governance Committee:

The Committee will meet on January 15th to review rules and procedures.

Communications:

Christmas card from St. Vincent SW Ozanam pantry expressing thanks for donations.

Old Business:

In response to the mailed letter, several gardeners have indicated that they will make a monetary contribution in lieu of volunteer hours.

The Sachsenheim Hall has been reserved for the 2018 fundraiser event on April 14th.

Author Natalie Walsh toured the Garden and interviewed Jennifer, Greg and John for a book on community gardens. John noted that Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur has expressed interest in visiting.

New Business:

Jennifer reviewed the 2017 season accomplishments.

The topic of plot fees was introduced and briefly discussed as overture to future deliberation. Included in discussion: mechanism and use of plot fees for coordinator compensation, alternative methods for delivering compensation.

The topic of perennial garden plots was discussed. There was some interest in the few surveys returned. Mentioned in discussion was type, size and placement of plots, garlic nematodes and treatments. Jennifer requested an indication of whether to investigate and get pricing for raised beds. The consensus was to proceed.

Elicia made a motion for a \$100 gift card for Mark for his years of service, John seconded. Approved.

5,850 pounds is the final count for produce donations for 2017.

Lisa urged that we need to step up action for the fundraiser and waiting until January is not recommended. Some steps forward can be by email but she needs better response to her messages. Lisa will send out the vendor list by email and will bring letters to the next meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Next meeting will be Wednesday 1/17/18 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek
Secretary