

BEN FRANKLIN COMMUNITY GARDEN MINUTES OF GARDEN OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: July 19, 2017

Location: OBCDC

Call to Order: Chair Jennifer Terry opened the meeting at 6:41 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

Minutes:

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

Treasurers Report:

Not available from accounting service at meeting time. John moved to suspend until the next meeting; Ken seconded. Approved.

Garden Coordinator:

Greg and Ken added a super on beehives. The first is totally full. We can harvest in September and if Ken and Greg volunteer at the Fair Bee Barn exhibit our extraction fee will be waived.

For last four weeks Greg has picked grape vines and mulberry branch "browse," totaling 25-26 bags, that Gayle Cummins has delivered to the Zoo on Wednesdays.

Gateway Church volunteers have come three times and Gilmour Academy group has come every weekend.

Rustbelt reports 3 bins of compost are cured and ready. Mark is looking to get locust wood posts to demarcate the new bin area and start using. Discussion about using/saving the finished compost. There was consensus that it be used in the area of the hunger center plots.

Alley gate installation is complete.

Greg described the problem of gardens abandoned from the beginning of the season. Members considered the issue and how to address it within the Garden Rules. There was also a discussion of items observed in plots: plastic sheet; other materials; various white powders.

Sub-Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

Elicia reported on sales at the Ice Cream Social: almost \$20 hot dogs; \$134 raffle; \$80 cookbooks/t-shirts.

Projects Committee:

Compost bins. Mark hopes to get posts but other wood will not be available for a couple of weeks. Discussion of where to store finished compost.

Governance Committee:

Joe presented draft credit card procedure for approval.
Brief discussion of official documents storage.

Jennifer pointed out that if there are any *Operating Committee By-Laws* revisions we must have proposed changes posted at least 15 days in advance of the annual meeting. Members should submit any proposed revisions to Joe within a week.

Communications:

Harvest Picnic post cards will go out.

Old Business:

Ice Cream Social was well attended.

We received wood chips.

About a dozen Orange Village Community Garden members toured on 6/24.

Committee members whose terms are up were polled for intention to run again. We have one 1-year term and four 3-year-terms open. A sign-up sheet for interested gardeners is posted. Next meeting will be at the Garden in hopes of having other gardeners attend.

All honey (68 bottles) has been sold. Purchasing an extractor was discussed.

New Business:

Looking into an opportunity for horse manure and how it can be applied.

Lisa and Jennifer advised having new containers for supplies. Elicia moved and Laura seconded for expenditure not to exceed \$200 for organizing units for the shed. Approved.

Clam bake. Elicia presented her research and preliminary plan for catering, tickets, licenses, beer/wine, tents, tables and chairs. Discussion of dates, times, possible scenarios, ticketing and prices, power requirements, promotion, and volunteer requirements. Consensus was for Saturday Sept. 23rd from 3-7 p.m. Elicia made a motion to proceed with a Clam Bake fundraiser; Laura seconded. Approved. A special meeting was scheduled for July 31st at the Garden.

Announcements. Summer Sprout Watermelon Picnic 8/12. The next Saturday Morning Coffee 8/12 with proposed topic "saving seeds."

Jennifer requested that everyone bring two suggestions to the next meeting for reaching new gardeners. Many suggestions for marketing were contributed.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Next meeting will be August 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Garden.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek
Secretary