

BEN FRANKLIN COMMUNITY GARDEN MINUTES OF GARDEN OPERATING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: May 17, 2017

Location: OBCDC

Chair Jennifer Terry opened the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Present:

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

Staff – Greg Noeth

Minutes:

Dave moved to approve the minutes of the April meeting, Mark seconded. Minutes were approved.

Garden Coordinator:

Rosemary Mudry was not able to arrange BGSU volunteers.

40 Gilmour Academy volunteers will come on Sunday (5/21). 2 more ADA planters were built but there are some structural issues.

Greg reported fighting the weather, the equipment, and the ground cover but tilling is partially done. Some gardeners are anxious. There was a discussion of soil depth: Jennifer tested 6.5-7" average north and deeper in middle; John found shallower.

Ground cover was mowed twice and tilled at 2 inch, then 4, and then at lowest setting. Moisture is still in the ground cover and the work is hard on the equipment, with each pass across taking 15 minutes.

The bees are fine.

We need to replace the weed whacker. John made a motion to allocate \$100 and Mary Ellen seconded. Approved.

The plan is for staking Saturday morning (5/20) and opening later in the day. Gateway Church volunteers will paint stakes in advance.

Ken, Mark, John, and Dave will open and close for Greg over Memorial Day weekend. Plants from the Extension Service have arrived.

Jennifer requested that anyone able come to the Garden for some cleanup tasks after the meeting.

Ken revamped and weeded the pollinator garden.

Treasurers Report:

The [REDACTED] total does not include fundraiser income. Laura moved to accept; John seconded. Approved.

Sub-Committee Reports

Finance Committee:

Details of the fundraiser were presented. The total profit was \$3,780.19. It was noted that there were fewer tickets sold, fewer in attendance this year.

Projects Committee:

Tool hangers are up; working on tool tags. Have rebar and clamps for the extended fence.

Mark made a motion to have \$300 allocated for lumber for the new compost bins and Ken seconded. There was discussion about spacing and size and Ohio EPA regulations. Approved.

Dave reported on the tool inventory.

Elicia inquired about acquiring kids' tools.

Governance Committee:

OBCDC is working on our credit card. We must devise an official procedure.

A committee member who is not up for election will be needed to head the Nomination Committee.

Communications:

Lisa reminded the committee of the plan for the Pedal for Prizes Garden stop.

John asked for volunteers for a Pearl Road cleanup in advance of the streetscape ribbon-cutting. He also noted that John Young was very pleased with our donation basket for Pedal for Prizes.

Old Business:

49 signed in at the Kickoff meeting; there were 20 in attendance at the First-timers meeting.

New Business:

Garden opening scheduled for May 20th after staking.

Garden blessing scheduled for May 22nd.

There will be Key Bank Neighbors Make a Difference volunteers on May 24th.

John has contacted Cleveland Metroparks about wood chips.

Dave reported that the sweet potatoes came in.

Elicia reported that Charlie's Plant Place may have a discount offer for gardeners.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next meeting will be June 21, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek
Secretary