

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

**Date:** November 15, 2017

**Location:** OBCDC

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Terry called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m.

In attendance:

Committee members – Jennifer Terry, Mary Ellen Stasek, Elicia Polacek, Joe Jerdonek, Ken Keckler, Dave Kuebler, Laura Stahl, Lisa Young, Steve Morris, Mike Rompala  
Staff – Greg Noeth

An Executive Session was convened. Following, it was proposed that the Coordinator be given a \$300 gift card bonus. Laura moved; Ken seconded. Approved.

**Minutes:**

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

**Treasurers Report:**

██████████ was the reported balance. Laura moved to accept; Dave seconded. Approved.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Finance Committee:**

No report.

**Projects Committee:**

The compost bins are complete. Will wait for spring to complete the deer deterrent devices. A dead deer was found inside the Garden. The bees have absconded from both hives, perhaps due to yellow jackets. Extracted honey totaled 104 jars.

**Governance Committee:**

No report.

**Communications:**

No report.

**Old Business:**

Letters to the gardeners lacking their contribution of volunteer hours have been prepared and will be mailed.

**New Business:**

Jennifer announced subcommittee chair assignments as: Communications–Lisa; Projects–Ken; Preservation–Mary Ellen; Marketing–Mary Ellen; Beautification–Laura; Governance–Joe; Finance–Steve. Everyone was asked to become members of two (additional) committees.

A Governance meeting will need to be held for Rules updates. Jennifer has been reviewing the operating procedures for updates. Joe suggested a quick Rules review at the December meeting and then meet in January as needed.

**Garden Coordinator:**

Greg reported that the ground cover is growing. Gateway church volunteers cleaned tools and added soil to the hugelkultur raised bed. Rhododendrons were added to the back side.

Greg has discussed with the custodian adding hot water to the restrooms and proposed to the committee an expenditure of \$300 for a hot water tank. Elicia presented a motion; Ken seconded. Approved.

The Rust Belt Riders have not visited. Jennifer is checking with them.

**New Business, cont'd.**

Budget. Jennifer presented a budget for 2018. There was a brief discussion of soil testing and bookkeeping detail. Mary Ellen moved to adopt; Steve seconded. Approved.

2018 Schedule. Dates for 2018 events were presented. Following a brief discussion of the fundraiser date and venue Ken made a motion to pay a \$200 deposit to return to the Sachsenheim Hall and Laura seconded. Approved. A location for the kick-off meeting was deliberated. Ideas for a repeat or alternative to a clambake were mentioned. Steve suggested a link to a M.A.D. fundraising effort to gain additional funds for the hunger center plots as well as increase visibility. Joe moved to approve the dates; Ken seconded. Approved.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Next meeting will be **December 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.** followed by holiday dinner at Rockne's at Ridge Park Square in Brooklyn.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek  
Secretary