

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

Date: January 17, 2018

Location: OBCDC

Call to Order: Chair Jennifer Terry called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.

In attendance:

Committee members – Jennifer Terry, Ken Keckler, Mary Ellen Stasek, John Jenkins, Joe Jerdonek, Dave Kuebler, Steve Morris, Lisa Young

Staff – Greg Noeth

Absent committee members: Mike Rompala, Elicia Polacek, Laura Stahl

Minutes:

Steve moved to approve the minutes of the December meeting and Lisa seconded. Minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurers Report:

██████████ was the reported balance. Steve moved to accept; John seconded. Approved.

Sub-Committee Reports

Garden Coordinator:

The Rust Belt Riders still have not been out. Bees have been ordered. Greg won't work on hot water until weather is better. Coordinator hours have been exhausted.

Finance Committee:

No report.

Projects Committee:

No report except a reminder to submit any volunteer hours not yet counted.

Communications:

None.

Old Business:

Thank you card and gift card for Fahrenheit were purchased for Mark.

New Business:

Applications for returning gardeners are being prepared as well as a list of volunteer activities.

John will try to secure the Brooklyn Senior & Community Center for the kick-off meeting.

Steve will ask to have a fundraiser flyer designed by one of the students.

Plot fees. Lisa compiled plot fee history back to 1994. Discussion covered topics including the number of staff hours needed to run the Garden, acceptable price, and structure for pricing. Greg also explained the contract for spring plowing (90 hours prep time not covered), and time spent in the fall, noting how late the leaves fall. After several considered possibilities, Steve moved to increase the plot fee to \$45. Ken seconded. Approved.

Governance Committee:

Rules. The sole change clarifies that each gardener and co-gardener are required to give 5-hours of volunteer time. Steve moved and Lisa seconded the change. Rule change was approved.

Operating procedures. The required 5-year review was conducted and several minor changes proposed. Joe moved to approve and Steve seconded. All edits approved.

Fundraiser. Lisa distributed letters and the current list for potential donors. Details of the fundraiser were reported. Greg will order the tickets and handle distribution. Lisa will collect prizes.

Greenspace Committee. John and Mary Ellen reported on committee goals for 2018, as requested by the OBCDC Board, and as they pertain to the Garden and the Operating Committee. Equity: ensure that all Garden operatives understand the principles of equity and inclusion; assess the impact when making project and policy decisions; evaluate effectiveness and adapt strategies and interventions annually. Partnerships: look for opportunities to connect and share with like-minded organizations. Ohio Historical Marker: complete the application. Brief discussion followed about each goal, including promoting the Garden to various populations, accessible raised bed plots, dating the Garden.

Grants. Mary Ellen reported that the Brookpark Road Walmart had awarded us a \$1000 Community Grant for 2017. We were not successful with the Steelyards Walmart request nor the Clif Bar Foundation grant.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next meeting will be Wednesday 2/21/18 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek
Secretary