

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

**Date:** July 18, 2018

**Location:** Garden

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Terry called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m.

In attendance:

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

Absent: Steve Morris, Mike Rompala

Staff – Greg Noeth

**Minutes:**

Joe moved to approve the June minutes; Dave seconded. Minutes were approved by Committee vote. There was a brief discussion about posting our minutes online and we will explore.

**Treasurers Report:**

██████████ is the reported balance. Dave moved to approve and Ken seconded. Committee voted to approve the report.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Garden Coordinator:**

1. Greg reported \$301 in sales for 43 bundles of sweet potato slips. Some slips went to hunger center plots.
2. Tampa gate paver project is almost complete.
3. Produce deliveries have begun. New this year: spinach and zucchini were supplied for a weekly food/meal demonstration at West Side Catholic Center in Ohio City that Julie Jerdonek prepares.
4. Supers put onto hives and hives doing well.
5. Gateway Church volunteers helped with alleyway cleanup and gardener Nick Marakas helped clear fallen mulberry.
6. Elevator delivery to school caused temporary parking closure beside school. Jennifer added that there was \$42 in seed potato sales.

**Finance Committee:**

Lisa reported on Ice Cream Social refreshments sales.

**Projects Committee:**

Ken reported on the paver project.

**Governance:**

No report.

**Communications:**

No report.

**Old Business:**

- A. Jennifer reported that the health and wellness table at the Old Brooklyn Farmers Market (OBFM) on 6/26 drew a number of interested community members.
- B. The annual Ice Cream Social was well attended.

**New Business:**

A. Another OBFM health and wellness tabling event scheduled for 7/24.

B. 8/18 open house flyers available. Volunteers needed.

C. Perennial plots. 4' x 8', 10" depth @ \$40 each for lumber from Mark's mill. John moved to approve expenditure of \$800 for 20 units. Elicia amended the motion to add \$100 for name post lumber for a total of \$900. Joe seconded. Brief discussion of procedures. Allocation approved by unanimous vote.

D. Goat rental. Alleyway and woods has poison ivy. Haulin' Goats from Valley City will visit and give estimate on using goats to clear poison ivy and other plants.

E. New T-shirt designs by gardener Kathy Delaney were presented and, after discussion, a final design was selected. Sizes and presale orders were proposed. John moved to allocate \$955 for T-shirt printing and Laura seconded. Committee voted to approve.

F. Blackberry jam is now available for sale.

Business plan. Following our previous discussions and suggestions from Rep. Kaptur, Mary Ellen started drafting a business plan and will email it to committee members. Brief discussion followed on a number of related topics. It was decided that having a sub-committee would be best for working on a plan. Joe and Greg will help; it is assumed that Steve will also.

**Visitors' comments:**

Greg Cznadel mentioned dead tree branches over the school parking area. It was suggested that a call be made to the councilman. He also mentioned the ivy and grape vines covering trees. Discussion of tree maintenance effort and costs followed. Greg also asked about the possibility of raising and selling perennials.

Phyllis Crespo asked what areas of the garden are garlic-restricted, her inquiry made in view of the remaining special-provision plot. There was discussion about the status of the plot, garlic restrictions, nematode prevention protocols. It was stated that there was an OBCDC hearing and ruling on that special allotment but the committee currently does not have documentation on file.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2018 at the Garden.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek