

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

**Date:** June 20, 2018

**Location:** OBCDC

**Call to Order:** Chair Jennifer Terry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance:

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

Absent: Elicia Polacek

Staff – Greg Noeth

**Minutes:**

Dave moved to approve the June minutes. Steve noted that the actual check amount from M.A.D. will be roughly \$500. Dave moved to accept minutes as submitted; Steve seconded. Minutes were approved by Committee vote.

**Treasurers Report:**

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

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Garden Coordinator:**

Greg reported that he will place procedural signs around the garden.

A gardener has requested placing animal traps but it was not determined to be a good measure at this time.

Tractor water pump is OK; needs new fan instead.

Supers will be put onto hives next week.

Project for the 4th could be Tampa gate pavers. \$100 for materials requested, moved by Dave, seconded by Steve, and approved by vote.

Alley vegetation will be cut down next week, likely with Gateway church volunteers. Greg will coordinate with Zoo for mulberry trimmings.

Greg along with gardeners M. Kelly and R. Golembiowski patched potholes in alleyway. Committee expressed appreciation.

**Finance Committee:**

No report. Jennifer distributed Ohio STEC-B form for tax exemption.

**Projects Committee:**

Pavers will be next project.

**Governance:**

No report.

**Communications:**

No report. J. Davenport is interested in helping with Instagram.

**Old Business:**

A. Contractor hired to finish the till.

B. Garden opened on May 26th.

C. Congresswoman Kaptur also visited on May 26th.

D. Thank you cards to donors were mailed.

E. Summer Sprout plants were delivered.

F. Volunteer groups so far: M.A.D. Club, Gateway Church, Key Bank Neighbors Make the Difference, Laurel School. Compliments given to plot layout team. New gardeners seem enthusiastic.

**New Business:**

A. 6 gardeners with paid plots have not moved in; will become Hunger Center plots. Jennifer reported the various circumstances. 35 plots were empty, some are M.A.D. sponsored, and there have been some inquiries. Brief discussion of marketing.

B. Jennifer arranged for us to have a health and wellness table at the OB Farmers Market 6/26 and 7/24. John complimented her diplomacy. Jennifer proposed having an open house on Sat., 8/18. Times were discussed.

C. County Fair. K. Repinski will lead the effort with a bee-themed display.

D. Compost. Jennifer requested that committee members volunteer to assist Greg with composting by coordinating with Jim Riley (who will come in to instruct) and gardener volunteers. Joe will take the lead.

E. Garden Monitors. Jennifer distributed assigned garden sections. Committee members were asked to contact volunteer Garden monitors to initiate. Monitors will report problems in a binder and Committee members will contact problem gardeners.

F. Ice Cream Social July 11th. Postcards and refreshment details were discussed. J. Davenport is donating wreaths made from garden hoses to raffle.

G. Volunteer lists will be posted. Committee members are urged to meet gardeners in their sections and initiate projects as needed.

H. Business plan. During her visit Rep. Kaptur made many suggestions for funding. For any, it would be best for us to have a business plan. A broad range of topics were discussed, including perennial plots, raised beds, high tunnels, sponsorships, cash crops, plant sales, partnerships.

John inquired about hiring the same "spring" person to do the fall tilling but Jennifer noted that he cannot do a deep till. John recommends that we have a backup for our own tractor.

John has a good amount of historical Garden documents that he would like preserved. After a brief discussion of archiving materials, there was consensus that as much as possible should be scanned and multiple copies kept. John will see if the Historical Society of Old Brooklyn is interested in housing any materials.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2018 at the Garden.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek