

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

Date: March 21, 2018

Location: OBCDC

Call to Order: Chair Jennifer Terry called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

In attendance:

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

Staff – Greg Noeth

Minutes:

Steve moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting and Dave seconded. Minutes as submitted were approved by vote.

Treasurers Report:

██████████ was the reported balance. Steve moved to accept; Lisa seconded. The Committee voted to approve the report.

Sub-Committee Reports

Garden Coordinator:

Greg reported that they will be making traps from plastic bottles to capture hornets and yellow jacket queens. We can expect water to be turned on May 1.

Finance Committee:

No report.

Projects Committee:

Dave reported that there was a price increase of \$9 for our usual order of sweet potato slips. John made a motion to allocate ~~\$258~~ \$267 to purchase sweet potato slips and Mary Ellen seconded. Motion to purchase approved. All agreed to keep the selling price at \$7. There was a brief discussion about acquiring potatoes and it was decided that we will investigate.

Governance:

No report.

Communications:

Lisa got a Seed Savers Exchange bundle of seeds—100 packets for \$25.

Old Business:

Jennifer noted the centerfold feature article in the *OBN* and distributed an opinion survey. Requests for placement on the plot waiting list are coming via the website form.

New Business:

A. Fundraiser. Elicia made assignments for work details, verified bakers, times and other details. Lisa took orders for reserved tables. Greg reported current ticket sales stands at 99. Other matters including wrist bands, raffle tickets, prizes, and day-after finance meeting were discussed.

B. Plot waiting list applications will go out in the next days.

C. Jennifer reminded all that Spring Clean-up days are 4/21 and 4/22 from 10am–2pm.

D. KeyBank Neighbors Make a Difference volunteers are confirmed for 5/23 from 1-5 pm.

E. Summer Sprout meeting. Greg and Ken will attend.

F. Summer Sprout Office (OSU Extension) has moved to 12200 Fairhill, Rd., Cleveland 44120.

G. Summer Sprout plant pick-up. Because Summer Sprout does not have the capacity to store and have gardens pick up plants at the new location, they will use Ben Franklin. Tentatively June 1-3.

Jennifer spoke to Full Cycle Organics composting facility about getting green material for our compost. The organization also sells bins of compost (64 gal. - \$40, 48 gal. - \$25). Rust Belt Riders has not been on site.

H. Raised beds. Jennifer reviewed the garlic plot nematode issue and possible locations for perennial plot raised beds. Greg estimates the cost to build 9" high boxes at \$80 each. In one scheme of 100' x 25' space we could fit 12 larger or 24 smaller boxes. There was a lengthy discussion of nematode control, crop rotation, potential uses for boxed plots, converting the difficult alley-side plot into 13 4' x 10' raised bed plots, prices, and community classes. Decisions are not required at this time as no actions would be needed until fall. John asked OBCDC about the parcel on Henninger. We would need to make a proposal as a group.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ellen Stasek