

Ben Franklin Garden Committee  
2009 Report

September 12, 2009

1. FINANCES

- a) Submitted application for Neighborhood Connections Grant for the garden. Grant of \$4000 was awarded.
- b) Key Bank awarded \$500 gift as a Community Leadership Grant.
- c) Individual donations and other fund-raising activities (e. g. 50/50 Raffle) have netted approx. \$770 for this year.
- d) A Memorial Fund has been established for the garden. This fund currently has a balance of \$200. As a restricted account, it cannot be used for operating expenses.
- e) The OPERATING FUND has a balance of about \$2200, of which approximately \$900 are encumbered.

2. ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- a) Purchase of a steel storage container, placement on site and painting of same. This was funded with Grant money.
- b) Removal of weeds from east side fence line and planting of 2800 sq.ft. of grass along the fence.
- c) Planting of three 5-in-1 fruit trees.
- d) Painting of the outside of white picket fence around student garden.
- e) Installation of scissor gates in storage building to allow access to rest rooms. Purchased gates with 2008 Grant funds.
- f) Brush mowing and fall furrow plowing of the garden was done in 2008 and is planned for fall 2009.
- g) Removal of debris from an old compost site and planting of 380 sq.ft. of grass in the same location.
- h) Purchase of new equipment:
  - New lawn mower, tool set, four folding tables, steel storage container.
  - Vegetable seeds
  - Cleveland Landmark Plaque for gardenAbove funded from a combination of Grant and committee-raised monies.

3. GARDEN COMMITTEE SUPPORTED/FUNDED EVENTS

- a) Ice Cream Social
- b) Harvest Picnic
- c) Garden Class - for new gardeners
- d) Cuyahoga County Fair - Community Garden Entry (blue ribbon}
- e) Cleveland Urban Harvest Garden Tour - Ben Franklin garden was chosen as the starting point, with Cleveland Mayor Frank Jackson as one of the dignitaries present.
- f) All Access Home And Bicycle Tour - provided refreshments - garden grown zucchini were baked into breads and cookies.
- g) Conducted tours for mayor of Rocky River, who was impressed, and a committee from Neighborhood Connections, who were pleased to see how we spent the Grant funds they awarded.
- h) Provided community service projects at the garden for volunteers from various entities, e. g. Boy Scouts, Baldwin Wallace College Students, City Year Organization, etc.
- i) Last season, our gardeners donated 6000 pounds of produce. This year, the donations continue; to date we have 1500 pounds.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Jenkins  
Committee Chairman