Benjamin Franklin Community Garden
A program of Old Brooklyn Community Development Corp.
2339 Broadview Rd.; Cleveland, OH 44109

Operating Committee
2010 Annual Report

Garden Maintenance and Improvements

- Scheduled spring tilling and fall brushhoggng and plowing
- Purchased rakes, other garden implements and supplies
- Purchased whiteboards to post messages for gardeners
- Supplied gas for equipment
- Distributed seeds from the
  * Summer Sprout program
  * Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds
  * America the Beautiful
- Distributed plants from Rosby’s through Summer Sprout
- Moved Garden Kick-off Meeting to Brooklyn Senior Center, a larger facility with ample parking
- Opened and closed gates on Sundays beginning in July and on other days, as needed
- Purchased podium, sound system and canopy for events at the garden
- Completed inventory and marking of tools and equipment
- Created raised bed to showcase landmark plaque
- Funded and supervised tree trimming to enhance safety, strengthen trees and decrease shade on plots
- Inventoried and marked trees
- Oversaw planting of six tree saplings
- Supervised service projects by volunteers from Key Bank, Baldwin-Wallace College

Other Accomplishments

- Won Blue Ribbon at the Cuyahoga County Fair - Judged best community garden for the third year in a row
- Tracked donations of garden produce, created thermometer sign to mark progress
- As of September 11, 2010, have helped deliver 2000+ pounds of produce to local hunger centers
- Replanted an abandoned plot, earmarking all proceeds for the hunger centers
- Tracked hours of service volunteered by gardeners
- Updated website, www.oldbrooklgm.com/BFCG, frequently throughout the year
• Provided articles and photos about gardeners and garden events to the *Old Brooklyn News*
• Prepared cross-stitched scroll recognizing donors of memorial contributions
• Established end-of-season check-out process for gardeners and updated garden rules

Hosted or Supported Garden and Community Events

• Mid-winter seed-starting class - February 20, 2010
• Kick-Off Meeting - May 6, 2010
• Landmark Plaque Unveiling Ceremony - June 19, 2010
• Ice Cream Social - July 14, 2010
• Harvest Picnic - September 11, 2010
• Old Brooklyn Pedal for Prizes - May 22, 2010
• Old Brooklyn All-Access Bicycle Tour - July 17, 2010
• Theater Under the Stars presentation at Harmody Park - July 31, 2010
• Loaned garden equipment to various community groups undertaking beautification projects

Fundraising

• Applied for and received a grant from Neighborhood Connections to support:
  * Fall brushhogging and plowing of the garden
  * Tree trimming to increase safety, strengthen trees and decrease shade on plots
  * Garden events
  * Purchase of garden equipment such as a leaf blower, pruning shears and other tools
• Applied for and received a Community Leadership grant from KeyBank
• Organized a highly successful fundraiser at Cleats on March 6, 2010
• Conducted 50/50 raffles at the Kick-Off Meeting, Ice Cream Social and Harvest Picnic
• Created two T-shirt designs and sold T-shirts
• Supervised ongoing sale of water and soft drinks at the garden
• Sold hot dogs at Sears Hardware Outlet in North Olmsted on several Saturdays
• Prepared Letter of Intent for Ohio Farm Bureau Foundation grant

Committee Members  *Served for part of the year

Operating Committee members that served during the 2010 season include:
John Jenkins, Chairman
Jeff Kostura, Vice Chairman/Treasurer*, Finance Sub-Committee Co-Chair
Kim Repinski, Treasurer*, Finance Sub-Committee Co-Chair
Lisa Young, Secretary, Fair Sub-Committee Chair
Dave Aloi†, Jan Papez
Hallie Forcinio, Preservation Sub-Committee Chair
Kim Hageman*
Dave Kuebler
Dan Misztal*
George Oryshkewych, Governance Sub-Committee Chair
Bill Smith, Vice Chairman*
Mark Tapajna, Projects Sub-Committee Chair
Neal Wilds*, Nominating Sub-Committee Chair, Events & Information Sub-Committee Chair
Mike Theus
Special thanks to Phyllis Crespo who served as the Committee’s legal advisor
Bruce Page*
Bill Smith, Vice Chairman*
Mark Tapajna, Projects Sub-Committee Chair
Neal Wilds*, Nominating Sub-Committee Chair, Events & Information Sub-Committee Chair

Special thanks to Phyllis Crespo, who served as the Committee’s legal advisor

* Served for part of the year