

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 7:00- 8:00 PM

Minutes Submitted by: Steve Slaterbeck (H-6)

Present: Maja Bucan (J-9), Lillian Cohen (E-2), Mary Lou Gross (I-2), Steve Slaterbeck (H-6), Katie Tremont (A-1), John Wagner (K-3), Linda Zaimis(K-5), and Michele Ettinger CCRA representative

Not Present: Jerry Faich(I-1), Al Kelman(J-8), Mike Kihn (B-1), Pat Rohlfing(G-1)

Recorded by Steve Slaterbeck, Secretary. Approval by the Steering Committee July 2, 2019.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order & Approval of Minutes	There were no further comments on the minutes for May. Motion to accept made and seconded.	Approved by unanimous vote. Steve: Post May minutes on bulletin board and on website.
Treasurer’s Report	<p>Katie: No report and doesn’t have time to process invoices.</p> <p>So next treasurer will be current, Steve requested and received from Travis, monthly bank statements from November going forward in order create monthly reports, and to verify whether or not quarterly payments of \$500 have been received from CCRA.</p> <p>Carryover: Discussed building up a reserve at July 2018 meeting, writing grants for big expenditures such as plumbing, shed repair (Mike volunteered Cecily).</p>	<p>All: Be sure to cc the Steering Committee when emailing reimbursement forms and receipts to Travis.</p> <p>Steve: Create February, March, April, May Financial Reports.</p> <p>John: Provide Steve with plot fee revenue for May.</p> <p>Steve: Email Michele CCRA payment information before Tuesday’s CCRA meeting.</p>
New Business	<p>CCRA: Michele will be installed as CCRA board member and SRPCG liaison at CCRA meeting on Tuesday, June 11.</p> <p>Shaded Plots: After their first season, gardeners routinely request transfer from shady plots J1, G1, H1. Other shady plots were also mentioned. Lillian discussed with Scott Farrington, who doesn’t think there is much we can do short of taking down the trees. Maya has a shade map which may prove useful in approaching Fairmount Park and Friends of Schuylkill River Park for a solution.</p> <p>Emailing Gardeners: Up until early spring, we had been emailing gardeners using icontact, with Steve responsible for the 2018 season. With list conversion to CCRA’s Wild Apricot, John now sends emails to gardeners through that platform. Regarding email among Steering Committee members, in order to reduce impertinent emails, everyone is encouraged to use discretion</p>	<p>Michele: Ask Barbara about contacting CSX with Roundup concerns in the Tomato Wait List Plots.</p> <p>Steve: Send concerned gardener’s email address to Michele.</p> <p>Maya: Resurrect shade map in her SRPCG archives for discussion at next meeting.</p> <p>Linda and Steve: Proof John’s emails before John sends.</p>

	<p>before hitting “reply all.” For the record, srpcg@srpcg.org and steering@srpcg.org email lists are identical. John offered to create SRPCG only email box for any Steering Committee member who would like that (in the same manner as John’s listmanager email box).</p>	
Committee Reports	<p>Plot Assignments: John reported 58 now on waiting list. Discussed tweaking map for clearer orientation (ie labeling 25th Street and dog park), and sending map with each lease highlighting respective gardener’s plot. Lillian to transfer lottery and tomato plot management to Maya starting 2020 season. Plot Use: Al reported by email. All plots, to one degree or another, are currently being farmed. Weeds around the perimeter of a few plots need tending: Plot B-4 is a mess on several sides of its plot. G-7 and A-2 have problems in the wider path that is parallel to their plots, but clean at board’s edge. Thanks to Alan Cohen for putting huge dent in weeding north side of B-4. Jimson weed spotted.</p> <p>City Harvest: Linda reported 93.5 pounds delivered to date. And a record 39 gardeners have signed up to host a tomato, pepper, or eggplant plant. Last year 33 gardeners hosted.</p> <p>Facilities: Mike reported by email. Contacting Ted Reed to for advice about the best time to trim the hedges.</p> <p>Chores: Mary Lou has taken over chores management from Katie. Only two left to choose a week. Sent multiple emails and called and left a message to one. If no word by Friday, will assign a week to them.</p> <p>Work Day: Summer Work Day is Saturday, July 13 9am - noon. Since we can expect hot temps, this work day will not include education program. Suggested tasks: remove dead fig trees (to be replaced in the fall); pruning hedge if not already completed; cut protruding lilac branch (Linda knows where); trimming ivy; weeding outside the west fence; Parkside Planting maintenance. Other task suggestions welcome.</p>	<p>Maya: Revise map to label 25th Street and the dog park, and numbered tomato plots.</p> <p>John: Send complete gardener list with emails to Al. Al: Email gardeners as needed.</p> <p>John: Send jimsonweed email to gardeners.</p> <p>Linda: Send John list of hosts.</p> <p>Mike: Keep us posted about hedge trimming and any needed assistance.</p> <p>Mary Lou: Provide Steve with final Chore Week Assignment list to post on web site and on shed.</p> <p>John: Send work day reminders. (Last year we sent reminder 1, 17 days before, and reminder 2, 4 days before.) Jerry: Give advance make up assignments to gardeners who aren’t able to attend. Katie: Look into presenter for Fall Work Day.</p>

	<p>Parkside Plantings: Big thanks to former gardener Joan Wells who managed Spring Work Day tasks and who continues to be the lead for Parkside Plantings along with Mary Lou and wait list gardener Scott Farrington.</p> <p>Thanks to wait list gardener Tom McKeon for removing one dead fig tree and donating and replacing it with a Stanley Dwarf Plum (grows 8 to 10 feet tall with good yield). Thanks to Carol Eaton for chopping and disposing of dead trunk and branches.</p> <p>One live fig remains, with two more dead ones to be replaced. Discussed replacing those two with cross pollinating (with Stanley) Santa Rosa Plums (grow 6-7 feet, top 3 rated, most beloved), best planted in fall. Mary Lou could order from Home Depot at \$45 each (includes free red buds!) To discuss at July or August meeting.</p> <p>Markward Rec Center asked for recommendation for hardy drought resistant container plants for south side of the building. Group looked at space and Lillian suggested Tiger Lilies. Other suggestions welcome.</p> <p>Website/Email/Facebook: Steve keeping website updated. All emails from Steering Committee go through John who sends through Wild Apricot, with Steve and Linda as proof readers. Katie posts activities on Facebook.</p> <p>Community/Children Events: Community Gardens Day is Saturday June 15 9am - 2pm. Linda and Katie picked up signs and brochures from PHS. Steve posted signs out side garden gates, and posted brochures in 3 park kiosks. Jerry and Mike have volunteered to be on hand that day to answer questions. It's pretty low key. Katie reported on Ladybug Release Party by email: Held on Saturday, May 11, 11a.m. Total cost: \$106.66. Well attended, 14 children and 15 adults RSVP'd. Upon arrival, kids painted rocks to look like ladybugs, thanks to former gardener Jacoba Zaring, followed by story reading, and ladybug release. Katie and guests supplied snacks and drinks, for total reimbursement of \$88.02 ((decorations, food, drink, supplies). Jacoba donated her supplies. Recommend holding on Saturday rather than a weekday evening (as in previous years).</p>	<p>Steve: Add Spring and Fall Work Day photos; May minutes.</p> <p>John: Send email to gardeners to tidy up the week before the event. All: Jerry's coordinating schedules, so let him know if/when you can be there to tour/answer questions.</p>
	<p>Next Steering Committee Tuesday, July 2, 7pm.</p>	<p>All: Think about prospects for the Steering Committee, particularly for a designated treasurer.</p>

Approval by Steering Committee July 2, 2019.

