

Approved by the Garden Membership at the Annual Meeting on March 27, 2014.

**Schuylkill River Park Community Garden
Annual Garden Meeting
Trinity Center for Urban Life
March 21, 2013**

The meeting was called to order by Joan Wells at 7:14 pm.

Joan introduced the new member gardeners and lottery plot gardeners.

Dianne Reed made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 2012 Annual Meeting. Seconded and approved.

Fran Levi presented the Treasurer's Report. In 2012, \$2,592.96 was spent from the \$6,262.98 Garden operating budget, leaving a balance of \$3,670.02. For 2013, \$5,485.00 is available from plot fees, plus the carry-over from 2012, and minus \$2000.00 transferred to the Capital/Maintenance account, gives us a total of \$7,155.02 for the regular Garden operating account. For the 2013 Capital Budget, we have a balance of \$7,741.17.

Linda Zaimis gave a summary of the Garden's participation in the City Harvest Program. Our food cupboard partner is the Lutheran Church on Chestnut St and we donated almost 700 pounds of fresh produce to them. The goal for this year is to enlist additional volunteers from the garden to be a host for one or more plants to increase the amount of produce we can donate.

Allison Rulon-Miller presented the Parkside Plantings report. Last year the borders were disrupted with the addition of a new irrigation system installed by Fairmount Park as part of the Pedestrian Bridge Project. Also installed was Belgian block edging to prevent soil runoff and wrought iron fencing to match the other areas of the Park. In addition to some of the plants killed during the construction project, increased shade from surrounding trees required the removal of some sun-loving plants which were donated to Fairmount Park. Donations made by gardeners rotating out of the Garden in the Fall helped fill in some of the lost plantings from the Bridge Project and increased shade. Volunteers will be needed this year to help weed the beds and spread compost.

Joan Wells thanked everyone who participated in the community task chores last year. It continues to be very successful with a minimum of effort by each gardener. The one week assignment is shared by two or more gardeners who are responsible for removing trash and keeping the common areas looking neat and tidy for that week. All gardeners are asked to sign up for a one week duty. Cecily Kihn will coordinate the duty roster again this year.

Joan announced the proposed slate of Steering Committee members for 2013. Anthony Steumpfing made a motion to accept the nominees. Seconded and approved.

Joan thanked the outgoing members of the Steering Committee and announced the committee chairs for 2013.

Penn State Horticulture educator, Doris Stahl was the guest speaker of the evening. She was director of the Penn State Urban Gardening program and has been teaching gardening and doing community organizing for more than 25 years. Her topic tonight was vegetable seed starting. Gardeners who start their own seeds have a much greater variety of choices and can save money instead of buying transplants from a garden center. Doris gave us the guidelines to be successful seed growers including the types of containers and soil as well as light, temperature, moisture and fertilizer requirements.

Important date reminders for 2013:

The Required Work Days:

April 13th at 9 am

July 13th at 9 am

November 2nd at 10 am

The Annual Harvest Party:

August 18th at 6 pm

New Gardener Orientations:

March 22nd at 6 pm

March 23rd at 1 pm

April 13th at 8:30 am

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Linda Zaimis,
Recording Secretary

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