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Schuylkill River Park Community Garden 2018 Annual Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2018, Thursday, 7 pm

Trinity Center for Urban Life, 22nd & Spruce Streets, Philadelphia, PA

Attendance: 52 Gardeners & guests

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/Timeline
Welcome to New Gardeners Reception & Refreshments		Gardeners had the opportunity to sign in, sign up for a Chores Week, and to volunteer for hosting a City Harvest plant, or for a number of projects & committees.
Call To Order	Jim Wells, Steering Committee Annual Meeting MC, called the meeting to order and announced that since the 2016 Annual Meeting, the Steering Committee instituted a decentralized governance structure with no chair, and hence the need for an “MC.” He reminded gardeners to sign in and to sign up for chores week, and of the work day on Saturday April 7, and announced Sally McCabe of PHS would present “Weeds” program at the close of the business meeting.	
Introduction of New Gardeners	Thirteen New & Returning Gardeners were introduced by Jim Wells, who encouraged gardeners to tap fellow gardeners for advice and to utilize Gardener Resources that appear on the web site.	New gardeners are required to attend one of three orientation sessions in the garden.
March 2017 Annual Meeting Minutes	Motion to accept made by Joan Wells, and seconded by Lillian Cohen.	Approved by voice vote.
Treasurer’s Report	Treasurer Joan Wells presented the 2018 budget, 2018 projections, and the 2019 budget. The garden now has its own checking account under CCRA’s auspices. The CCRA and garden accounts are in sync, with FY 2017/2018 ending June 30, and FY 2018/2019 beginning July 1. The FY 2017/2018 budget expenses include \$2990 for the completed bench restoration. The projected carry forward balance - over \$9,000 - is a good surplus and ensures a cushion in the event of unexpected major expenses such as shed or plumbing repair.	
City Harvest Report	Linda Zaimis, who has managed the Garden’s participation in City Harvest for the past several years, oriented Gardeners to this collaboration, established in 2006, among PHS, the Philadelphia prison system, and SHARE. The program supplies canned goods and vegetables to food banks throughout the city. SRPCG vegetables are delivered to Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion (2110 Chestnut) where food bank is offered 3 times a month, and to St. John’s Hospice	Gardeners are encouraged volunteer to host one caged plant that Linda will plant in May, 2018. Gardeners simply have to water, and Linda harvests. Also gardeners may donate by dropping any extra harvest in the caged box on the table opposite

	<p>(12th and Race) where meals are provided daily to homeless. Last year the garden contributed 1403 pounds. City Harvest supplies the seeds, prisoners supply the seedlings. Seeds are available for gardeners at the meeting, and more will be available after the work day. Donated vegetables can be accepted every day. Signup sheet to host a plant (either a pepper, tomato, or eggplant) is at the table, along with meeting sign in and work week chore sheets.</p>	<p>bulletin board, or if going on vacation, notify Linda if you'd like to donate your vegetables while you're away, and she will be happy to harvest.</p>
<p>Community Chores Report and Sign-up Reminder</p>	<p>Linda Zaimis explained the weekly chores program. The chores, including sweeping and taking out trash, are listed on the garden web site and will be posted on the bulletin board. A chore week runs from Monday to Sunday. Garbage is to be put at the curb on Mondays rather than Sundays if the Monday is a city holiday.</p>	<p>All gardeners are to sign up for a work week. Gardeners who share a chore week are encouraged to coordinate tasks. Email the committee at srpcginfo@srpcg.org if trash bags are running low.</p>
<p>Parkside Planting Report</p>	<p>Joan Wells described perennial beds outside the garden as our gift to Schuylkill River Park, and thanked the Steering Committee for approving funds to install an extra irrigation loop (four heads) in the Rose Bed area at the corner of 25th Street near Manning and adjacent to One Riverside wall. Also acknowledged Riverside One developer Dranoff and Parks and Rec for replacing ivy in that bed with plantings designed by Bryan Hanes Studio. With the new irrigation heads those new plants are thriving and spreading.</p> <p>Thanks to:</p> <p>Jerry Faich, for securing a donation of labor from Riverside One builders to replace and stain wood on all garden benches. Phil Lahaie for sweeping pathways around Parkside Plantings and tending the iris beds. Dick Atkins for donating red hibiscus and Ixora coccinea (jungle flame) potted plants in the cistern area, as well as to the gardeners who plant-sit potted plants during the winter: Lois Evans, Maggie Mund, and Nicole Gortian. Scott Farrington, a new neighbor and waiting list member, and professional horticulturalist, for advice and help with spring cleanup, and pruning in the planting beds.. Allison Rulon-Miller, former gardener, for advice, and help at many work days identifying and labeling plants.</p> <p>A list of the plants which have been planted is an ongoing project, with notes on the names and number of each plant in each bed, with their common name and where the plants were purchased or from whom they were donated. This past year Joan purchased a label maker and weather-resistant labels and made new plant labels.</p> <p>Recently Parks and Rec contractor crew did a fabulous job of spreading compost mulch on all Parkside Plantings beds. Looks great and the compost will help keep down the weeds and feed the plants at the same time.</p> <p>.</p>	<p>Gardeners are encouraged to ask Joan how they might assist in maintaining the Parkside Plantings.</p> <p>Purchase a few new ilex crenata to try to fill in the holes in the hedges inside the garden as well as plants for the very few remaining holes in the Parkside Plantings.</p>

Garden Education	Katie Tremont announced that she and Al Kelman are working with PHS to create a program of 3 informative sessions during the week, 1 in spring, 1 in summer, and 1 in fall. Details including dates and topics will be sent to gardeners, as they are finalized.	
Children's Activities/Ladybug Release Party	Jim Wells called for volunteers to assist Jacoba Zaring, in organizing the ladybug release party scheduled for Wednesday May 16, 2018.	Gardeners, especially those with young children, are encouraged to volunteer.
Election of 2017 Steering Committee	Jim Wells presented the slate of nominees to serve on the Garden Steering Committee for 2018-19. No further nominations were made from the floor.	The motion to accept the proposed slate was moved, seconded, and carried by voice vote.
Announcement of 2018 Committee Leadership; Call for Volunteers	Jim announced Garden Committee and Task Force leadership for this year and asked for assistance from volunteers.	Volunteer Gardeners are needed for Children's activities, Parkside Plantings, Website, Facilities.
Thanks to outgoing Steering Committee & Volunteer Gardeners	Thanks to outgoing Steering Committee Gardeners: Carol Eaton E-07 (Workday Organization); Alan Cohen/Michele Langer C-07 (Garden Education/Community Events); Laurie Taylor E- 4 (Plot Assignments/ Web site); Jim Wells J-07 (Plot Assignments/Annual Meeting MC); Jane Epstein G-03 (Facilities); Tom McKeon D-04 (Facilities/Fruit trees). Thanks to Volunteer Gardeners Jacoba Zaring (Children's Activities/Ladybug Release Party), Sally Frazza and Selwa Baroody (web site management & herb garden), Joan Wells (Parkside Plantings), Anthony Stuempfig (Facilities and Parkside Plantings), Phil Lahaie, Scott Farrington, Steve Slaterbeck, Sally Frazza (Parkside Plantings).	Gardeners acknowledged this service.
Reminder of Important 2017 Dates	Jim reminded gardeners of the required work days in the Garden-- Saturdays, April 7, July 14, and November 3 from 9 am to 1 pm. The Ladybug Release Party will be on Wednesday, May 16 th at 5pm and the Harvest Supper will be Sunday, August 26 at 5pm. All these dates are on the website. All new gardeners are required to attend one of 3 orientations: Saturday March 31 at 1 pm, Sunday April 1 at 1 pm, and Saturday April 7 at 8:30 am (which is the most popular session as it falls before the required Spring work day). Water will be turned on before the work day. Two compost deliveries, one before the work day and one the following week.	Gardener's who cannot attend any work day must contact Jerry Faich for make-up chores.
Program "Weeds"	Sally McCabe of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) presented a program on "Weeds."	
Adjournment	Jim Wells reminded gardeners to sign in, sign up for a Chores Week, and come to the work day on Saturday, April 8. Meeting adjourned at 8:20.	

Minutes Recorded by Steve Slaterbeck, Secretary, 2017-2018 Steering Committee.

Minutes pending approval by Gardeners at 2019 Annual Garden Meeting