

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Thursday, November 8, 2018 7:00- 8:30 PM

Minutes Submitted by: Steve Slaterbeck (H-6)

Present: Lillian Cohen (E-2), Jerry Faich(I-1), Al Kelman(J-8), Mike Kihn (B-1), Andy Nicolini (E-1), Steve Slaterbeck (H-6), Linda Zaimis(K-5), and Barbara Halpern CCRA representative, John Wagner prospective committee member(D-4), Craig Borchardt guest, and Don Shump guest speaker (Philadelphia Bee Company)

Not Present: Mary Lou Gross (I-2), Katie Tremont (A-1), Joan Wells (H-2),

Recorded by Steve Slaterbeck, Secretary. Approval by the Steering Committee pending for January 10, 2019.

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order & Approval of Minutes	There were no further comments on the minutes for October. Motion to accept made and seconded.	Approved by unanimous vote. Steve: Post October minutes on bulletin board and on website.
Treasurer’s Report	Joan reported by email. Expenses this period: Totaling \$274.21. Honoraria for work day speaker \$75; work day food \$63. 81; supplies including contractor bags and weedblock fabric \$130.48; Bank Fee \$5.00. Revenue this period: none. Discussed building up a reserve at July meeting, writing grants for big expenditures such as plumbing, shed repair (Mike volunteered Cecily).	
New Business	CCRA: No report. OneRiverside: A gardener observed OneRiverside routinely blowing leaves , weeds, and debris from their property on to the north garden pathway and adjacent plots. Steering Committee: Linda pointed to page 3 of the Bylaws stating “Any gardener who wishes to join the Steering Committee after the Annual Garden Meeting shall become a member of the Steering Committee with the approval of two-thirds of the Steering Committee members.” A motion was made, seconded and approved by unanimous vote to welcome John Wagner to the committee.	All: If you see this, go immediately to OneRiverside manager and report. All: Welcome John Wagner!

<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>Plot Assignments: Laurie, who continues to do a stellar job administering the waiting list, and Barbara, are working with Travis to convert the database to CCRA's Wild Apricot. They've added fields (lease expiration dates, plot sizes and plot #s, etc) so that we will be able to work off of CCRA list, since all gardeners are CCRA members. They're also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Developing online payment system for annual plot fees via PayPal. -Creating leases and other annual renewal documents in a digital format to reduce/eliminate snail mail correspondence. -Looking into digital signing capabilities for annual leases (VeriSign or other), in order to reduce paper document storage (CCRA has no room). <p>Barbara announced that Katie (not present) could not commit the time necessary for Plot assignments. John Wagner graciously volunteered to take the reins, along with Barbara with the ambitious goal of electronic mailing, signing, paying leases for the next cycle in January and February.</p> <p>icontact will be replaced with ??????</p> <p>There are 67 names on the Waiting List as of October 11.</p> <p>Plot Use: Gardeners in their last season may have extension no later than December 1 if they're growing fall vegetables. All gardeners should tidy up and dispose of tomato plants, and remove plantings as they die.</p> <p>City Harvest: Linda reported this year's total to date, 1134 pounds, compared to 1,326 pounds this time last year.</p> <p>Facilities: Mike reported. Suggested installing French drain by east faucet, as a Spring workday chore. Discussed donating excess tools in an effort to keep a more organized work shed. Steve contacted Sean at FSRP who said he would be interested in receiving tools. Craig Borhardt, bee enthusiast invited by MaryLou, attended. We learned from Don Shump's very informative talk that bee hives require more space than we anticipated, as well as 5-6 trained and devoted gardeners necessary to maintain the hives. Our group consensus, this is not something we would like to move forward with in time for this spring.</p>	<p>Barbara and John: Meeting with Laurie to get up to speed, in order to take on waiting list administration.</p> <p>Steve: Edit Guidelines and Rules and Jerry and then AI will have a pass before finalized for garden lease mailing by end of December.</p> <p>Steve: Create 2019 calendar draft to be finalized by end of December.</p> <p>AI: Send email to gardeners who are cycling out.</p> <p>Mike: Investigate where to purchase stones for French drain. Steve: Meet Sean of FSRP to see if tools he can use are ones we can donate.</p>
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	<p>Chores: Linda would like to hand off chore week duties for next season, the last year of her lease. Dutes include: creating the chore sign up sheet for the Annual Meeting, making sure all gardeners signed for a chore week, then sending an email each week to respective gardeners reminding them of their upcoming chore week.</p> <p>Workday: Participation: 55 gardeners representing 37 plots participated in the workday; 5-8 gardeners contacted Jerry and satisfied workday commitment before the workday; 23 plot holders (including 2 public, and 3 rotating out) have to make up the workday. As a makeup option, gardeners can participate in Love Your Park on Saturday, November 10th. Two gardeners arrived to sign in at 10:45 despite the 10 a.m. sign in deadline.</p> <p>Parkside Plantings: Great help on Saturday's work day, the PP look fabulous. Scott Farrington and Joan to move several large bushes that were incorrectly located by the contractor who planted the new bed near One Riverside, after we have had a frost to minimize stress on the plants.</p> <p>Sean O'Rourke of FSRP, agreed to meet with Joan and Mike on site to discuss coordinating, funding, and options for grass planting outside the garden gate at 25th Street.</p> <p>Website: Steve keeping website updated.</p> <p>Community/Children Events: Katie secured speaker for November 3 workday. Elizabeth Daily of PHS gave a 30 minute talk and handouts at 11:30 about Preparing Soil for Winter/Cold Weather Crops. 19 gardeners attended the talk which coincided with the workday. Discussed timing of future workday talks.</p>	<p>Jerry: Follow up with gardeners who have not satisfied their required Fall Workday commitment.</p> <p>Steve: Meeting with Sally as needed.</p> <p>Steve: Post handouts on website.</p>
	<p>Next Steering Committee Thursday, January 10, 7pm. (No December meeting unless something comes up that requires meeting.)</p>	<p>All: Think about prospects for the Steering Committee.</p>

Approval by Steering Committee pending for January 10, 2019