

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Thursday, October 3, 2019 7:00- 8:20 PM

Minutes Submitted by: Steve Slaterbeck (H-6)

Present: Maja Bucan (J-9), Lillian Cohen (E-2), Jerry Faich(I-1), Al Kelman(J-8), Pat Rohlwing(G-1) , Steve Slaterbeck (H-6), Katie Tremont (A-1), John Wagner (K-3), and Linda Zaimis (K-5) ,

Not Present: Mary Lou Gross (I-2), Mike Kihn (B-1), and Michele Ettinger - CCRA representative

Recorded by Steve Slaterbeck, Secretary. Approval by the Steering Committee **THURSDAY November 7, 2019.**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline
Call to order & Approval of Minutes	<p>There were no further comments on the minutes for September. Motion to accept made and seconded.</p> <p>October and November meetings will be on first Thursday. We'll revert back to first Tuesdays in December.</p>	<p>Approved by unanimous vote.</p> <p>Steve: Post September minutes on bulletin board and on website</p>
Treasurer's Report	<p>Katie provided 2019 Expense tracking sheet current through October 4. Expenses this period: Rittenhouse Hardware \$51.44. No Revenue.</p> <p>Travis confirmed that CCRA paid 3 checks to SRPCG (October 27 2018, April 3 2019, May 11 2019). Travis had previously provided our bank statements for November – April, the months after Joan’s exit. Steve attempted to reconcile. April 3 deposit doesn’t appear on bank statement.</p> <p>Carryover: Discussed building up a reserve of at July 2018 meeting, writing grants for big expenditures such as plumbing, shed repair (Mike volunteered Cecily).</p>	<p>All: All reimbursement forms should be sent to Katie Tremont and cc the Steering Committee. Katie will send reimbursement forms and receipts to Travis.</p> <p>Steve: Create February, March, April, May Financial Reports. Follow up with Travis to reconcile and establish quarterly payment schedule (Michele suggested first of January, April, July, October).</p>
New Business	<p>CCRA/CSX treatment of weeds West of the garden: Michele clarified: CCRA President Maggie Mund emailed Rodney Oglesby (CSX) to request notification 3 days before they treat the area outside the garden. Committee asks what herbicide they will use. No response so CCRA board member Matthew Fontana followed up only to learn Rodney no longer at CSX. Await response.</p>	

	<p>Shaded Plots: After their first season, gardeners routinely request transfer from shady plots J1, G1, H1. Other shady plots were also mentioned. Maja created a Power Point with a Shade Map created on June 28, 2019. She also showed a shade map of the SRPCG created by the Steering committee in 1998 that she found in the SRPGC archives. Based on the current shade map, there are parts of the garden that are more in shade than others but every garden plot gets full sun for at least 4 hours. We may consider trimming more the bushes in Parkside planting to reduce shade in a few plots.</p> <p>Discussed approaching Fairmount Park about pruning.</p>	<p>Maja: Create power point shade map with readings on Tuesday September 18 and 19 to compare shaded areas now and 20 years ago (September 19 Maja at 8am, 10am, 6pm and September 18 Linda at noon; Steve at 2pm; Lillian at 4pm).</p> <p>We may consider a presentation on partially shaded gardens at the annual meeting and have list of vegetables and flowers that do not need sun all the time.</p> <p>Maja: Consult with Seedway employee friend for a list of veggies that thrive in shade/partial shade, and to possibly donate leftover seeds for gardeners and for City Harvest.</p>
Committee Reports	<p>Plot Assignments: John reported 66 now on waiting list.</p> <p>Maja had questions about administering 2020 lottery plots, and about catchment area boundaries. Lillian already has (12) lottery plot requests as a result of web site and facebook promotion.</p> <p>Discussed transplanting pollinator plants from two outgoing gardeners to Parkside Plantings, One Riverside, or 24th Street Triangle. Plants include: Thermopsis chinensis 'Sophia', yellow blossom in early summer ; Crocosmia, deep red blossoms also early summer.</p> <p>A few on wait list are not current on CCRA dues. Agreed to give 6-month reprieve before removing from wait list.</p> <p>Plot Use: No report.</p> <p>City Harvest: Linda reported 1345 pounds delivered to date.</p> <p>Facilities: Cistern leaks slightly when turned off. Some gardeners report difficulty turning on.</p> <p>Discussed persistent negligence re dangling unlocked locks at gate. Some dog-owners ignore No Dogs rule that appears on the official Fairmount Park sign.</p> <p>Chores: No report.</p>	<p>Maja: Provide Steve with revised plot map to label 25th Street and the dog park, and numbered tomato plots.</p> <p>Steve: Post revised map on web site.</p> <p>Steve: Provide Maja with boundary wording.</p> <p>Katie: Promote lottery plot availability on facebook.</p> <p>John: Draft cycling out email re pollinator plants.</p> <p>John: Write last chance email to those affected.</p> <p>Al: Identify plots that need attention (eg tree removal, low soil level) and contact those plot holders.</p> <p>Mike: Have Frankie of John Bee Plumbing investigate when he turns the water off and drains for the season.</p> <p>Steve: Create reminder sign to post inside each gate.</p> <p>Steve: Create reminder sign to post outside East Gate.</p>

	<p>Work Day: Jerry continues to follow up with those gardeners who need to do make up Summer Work Day tasks. Jerry reported Ted and Mike will trim south hedges.</p> <p>Regarding changing gardener commitment rule for next year from 3 mandatory work days, and optional annual meeting attendance to choice 3 out of 4 (3 work days no annual meeting attendance, OR 2 of 3 work day plus annual meeting attendance). This would require change to Guidelines and Rules, and approval by the Steering Committee. Fall Work Day is November 2, 9am. Jerry won't be able to attend. John, Al, Kaitie volunteered. Katie recruited Gloria Day for work day education program to speak about Fall Management/Clean up. Approved fee of \$125.</p> <p>Parkside Plantings: Plum tree for north side of main walkway.</p> <p>Grape vines on north and west look sick. Will wait and see if they come back next season. Potted plants in cistern area.</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: No report.</p>	<p>Jerry: Follow up with 11 delinquent gardeners with Summer Work Day make up assignments. Volunteering for Love Your Park on November 9 can satisfy make up for missed Fall Work Day (which is November 2).</p> <p>All: Read Steve's draft of revised Guidelines and Rules for discussion at next meeting.</p> <p>Jerry: Send work day documents (eg sign in sheets) to group. John, Al, Katie: Manage work day in Jerry's absence. Purchase name tags.</p> <p>Mary Lou: Order dwarf plum as pollinator for existing plum to plant on work day. Maja: Take photos of grapes and send to her mother who is an expert grape grower. Pat: Contact likely hosts and arrange to have all placed in winter homes.</p> <p>Steve: Add Spring, Fall, Summer work day photos.</p>
	<p>Next Steering Committee THURSDAY, November 7, 7pm.</p>	<p>All: Think about prospects for the Steering Committee, particularly for a designated treasurer.</p>

Approval by Steering Committee **THURSDAY November 7, 2019.**