

Schuylkill River Park Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Markward Recreation Center

Tuesday, September 15, 2015 6:30- 8:00 PM

Minutes Submitted by: Linda Zaimis, Acting Secretary

Present: Maja Bucan/Scott Poethig (I-1), Carol Eaton (E-7), Lois Evans (Chair) (E-6), Tom McKeon (D-4), Linda Zaimis (K-5), Jane Epstein (G-3), Christine Guiliano (G-2), Alan Cohen (C-7), Jim Wells (J-7), Wayne Rosenberger (Treasurer) (E-5)

Not Present: Nicole Gortian (J-6)(Secretary)

Recorded by Linda Zaimis, Acting Secretary.

| Agenda Item | Discussion | Action/Responsible Party/ Timeline |
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| Call to order & Approval of Minutes | Wayne Rosenberger moved approval of amended Minutes of August 5 Steering Committee meeting, seconded by Scott Poethig. | Motion was unanimously approved. Nicole Gortian will post on website and garden BB & notify gardeners. |
| Treasurer's Report & Discussion of Revised Categories | Wayne Rosenberger presented June, July & August '15 Treasurer's Reports. Reports reviewed and discussed. Carol Eaton moved approval of amended reports, seconded by Christine Guiliano. Lois spoke with new CCRA president about his annually attending a Garden meeting and having the Garden SC Chair annually attend a CCRA Board meeting to promote better communications. There was interest in this suggestion. One of the new VPs has been assigned as liaison to the Garden and may be the more logical person to attend SC meeting. | The motion was unanimously approved. Wayne will meet with CCRA Treasurer to reconcile the past three years' journal entries of Garden expenses and income in CCRA's Financial Report. Lois will follow up. |
| Chair Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on One Riverside: One Riverside contact has been very responsive. Lois sent out an update on Sept 5. Current activities are focused on the tower foundation. • Street Scenes Update: Award ceremony was held from 1-3pm on September 12th just outside the Garden. Attended by 20 – 25 people. • Garden Lighting: Corrections made to fix on-off cycling of lights in the Garden. • October 31 Deadline: All gardeners leaving the Garden this year have been sent email reminders to vacate their plot by October 31. | Lois Evans will continue to summarize the updates provided and send to Gardeners through iContact. Lois solicited feedback from the judges re: revised judging guidelines & criteria that were used this year. She will share at Street Scenes Committee debriefing on Sept. 17. |
| Committee Reports | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Activities: No report. • City Harvest: 800 pounds have been donated to date. • Community Events: No report. • Facilities: Tom McKeon purchased one new flat bed wagon. • Garden Chores: No report. • Parkside Plantings: Joan Wells sent a report: Two dead shrubs will be | |

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| | <p>removed on Fall Workday & replaced in Spring; compost & sprinkler system worked well to maintain PP this summer; Linda Zaimis was thanked for contributing perennials from Bartram’s Garden.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plot Assignments: Jim Wells reported a Wait List of 54. • Plot Use: No report. • Website: No report. • Workday Organization & Supervision: No report. • Age Friendly Initiative Task Force. Lois Evans reviewed the summary draft report submitted by the Task Force re: activities, goals and recommendations. After discussion, there was consensus to move forward first on the idea of making some smaller plots available to gardeners, assuming sufficient Gardener interest and willingness to transfer to such a plot. With sufficient interest, a 10X20 foot plot near the main entrance water hydrant could be converted to smaller plots and assigned proportionate lease fees. • Garden History Task Force. Maja Bucan informally interviewed two gardeners who were original founders of the Garden, which was started in 1982. The current layout and organizational structure were created in 1988. Maja solicited & received two proposals from a videographer from Penn to produce a short video of the Garden’s history. The proposals include video recording of interviews with Garden founders and long time Gardeners plus digital editing for online posting. Following discussion, Alan Cohen moved the allocation of \$500 from our operating budget for 4 hours of video interviews without the editing as an initial start, while seeking other funding. The motion was seconded by Carol Eaton. | <p>Lois will send a questionnaire to the Gardeners to gauge interest in smaller sized plots, plot sharing and a Garden Buddy System.</p> <p>The motion was unanimously approved. Maja requested that SC members add to the list of names of Founding and Long Term Gardeners and also suggest questions to be asked in the interviews. She will create the interview guide, contact the videographer re: filming some of the interviews at the Fall Workday on October 24, contact/secure participants, and begin to seek additional funding.</p> |
| Old business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on Mulching Contract: No report. • Continued Participation in PHS Gardening & Greening Competition: Postponed to October meeting. | |
| New Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New SC members: Members were asked to begin to identify gardeners who might be approached for interest in serving on the SC beginning March 2016. • Next Steering Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 20th at 7pm. | |