

Summit Neighborhood Community Garden

Annual Meeting 2019

March 6, 2019

Minutes

Attendees: Read Porter, Jessica Porter, Anna Klevak, Greg Gerritt, Michael Bradlee, Margie Smith, Martha Frankel, Lesley Bogad, Jodi Devine, Linda Gifford, Richard Fields, Sarah Hesson

Jessica Porter called meeting to order and gave a welcome. All attendees introduced themselves.

Jessica Porter introduced slate of proposed officers as identified on the agenda. No nominations or changes were proposed by attendees. Linda Gifford moved to approve the proposed officers and Greg Gerritt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously by acclamation.

Jessica Porter provided the treasurer's report on behalf of Annie Voss-Altman, who was unable to attend. Currently, the garden has \$580 in operating capital as well as remaining capital from the Miriam grant. There was discussion regarding payment of garden manager. Martha expressed that she would like to ensure that the garden manager is paid adequately for her work, so if there is extra operating capital, she would support increasing the compensation. Discussion of the tax implications and other uses of additional funding followed. Read Porter noted that there is a budget for events, which was not fully expended last year. Attendees expressed interest in holding events this year. There was also discussion of how to spend down the Miriam grant. Ideas included reference guides, trees and fruiting bushes, signage, seats, hose system in addition to compost. Linda Gifford volunteered to help with some ideas.

Michael Bradlee provided an update on the compost system. He reviewed the design that he proposed, which is a three-bay system. Volunteers will be needed to help with the compost system once set up because it is a living system that needs some care on an ongoing basis. The compost presentation resulted in a group discussion about disease management in the garden. Michael Bradlee agreed to provide a seminar on disease management during the growing season to help educate gardeners on what to do to avoid and manage disease. Other gardener education workshops (or drop-in hours for help) are welcome.

Jessica Porter provided updates on the free veggie box, which was set up last year. In addition, she noted that there is a new communications box, which is located in the shed. The communications box can be used to leave messages for Sophie, the committee, or other gardeners.

Jessica Porter provided an update on the earth day celebration, which will coincide with the city celebration on Saturday, April 27. This will be an official work day for the garden, likely in 2 shifts. Sophie is working with the city to get wood chips delivered. There may be planting of blueberry bushes or other plantings as well.

Jessica Porter reviewed the working groups and noted the sign-ups are available.

Jessica Porter then invited other business. Sarah Hesson noted that the locks on the garden are unwelcoming and that removing the lock from the tot lot side would make the garden seem more community-oriented. There was discussion about last year's concerns about vegetable theft and it was noted that the lock on the tot lot is a safety issue to prevent unattended kids from being able to get into the garden unsupervised. The group expressed broad interest and agreement in finding an alternative solution that does not rely on locks.

Jodi Devine noted that she is not available on Saturdays (specifically referencing the April 27 workday) and asked whether there are support documents for new gardeners who can't attend. Jessica Porter noted that in the past we have circulated tips on what to do and that the committee will try to do so again.

Anna Klevak suggested circulating a gardener directory with the group. There was agreement that this is a good idea.

The meeting adjourned with the seed giveaway. The remaining seeds will put in the shed for the workday and will be available to all gardeners. (There are many seed packets, including flowers, vegetables, and herbs).