

Introductions:

Steering Committee Chair Greg Gerritt, VP Michael Bradlee, Treasurer Michael McGlynn, Secretary Martha Fraenkel, Member Ana Acevedo

SNA president Sharon Waldman

CG Gardeners members: Anna Klevak & Eugene Sorkin; Read & Jess Porter; Maria Hernandez

Gerritt noted the agenda was posted.

Seedlings and compost.

Lettuce plants will be available for free after 4/18 from Gotham Greens. Gardeners will be informed when lettuce is delivered to the garden.

Compost: Bradlee. gave a snapshot view of how to run a compost operation, more to come at the next general meeting. He wants to set up a few compost days throughout the season.

Gerritt said that in some years we've had compost delivered. He is concerned about contaminated compost. Bradlee could sell clean compost to the garden, noting he is aware of conflict of interest as a Committee member. He said there were other potential sources for clean compost. He could provide enough compost for our garden, a five-gal pail is more than enough for a plot, either dug in or top-dressed. We will gauge interest in compost then determine whether to order compost collectively or individually. The cost works out to about \$10/plot. Greg will contact gardeners. McGlynn will tally responses.

Garden manager position

In the past we've had someone in the garden manager position.

Fraenkel presented information about how the neighboring community gardens are run (appended).

Garrett commented that changes were proposed to restore community into garden, foster volunteerism following a decline of participation.

Clarification of the source of communications to gardeners should be improved. Bradlee said he thought communications could come at least mostly from chair or secretary.

Decision on garden manager for this year: unanimous vote to have no garden manager this year. Bradlee commended Klevak's contribution and hard work, noting that the garden managers have been a boon over the years.

Gardener Signups for this year/Treasurer Report. McGlynn said he isn't getting the info regarding payments and contracts from SNA, so his balance sheet is not current. Approximate balance is \$3733 right now. Payments have been slow coming in, McGlynn will notify the gardeners payment is due by April 15. An apparent tech problem with SNA will be investigated, Waldman to assist. One open plot remains to be assigned.

Workdays and General Meeting.

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STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 4 6 22**

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Gerritt will view the garden with Acevedo and Fraenkel on Friday at 10:30 to determine tasks, then plan a work day.

Members agreed to combine the first workday with a general meeting. Possible dates are 4/23 or 4/24 or the following week.

Steering Committee meetings: to be routinely set for second Sunday of month, next being May 8.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Fraenkel, Secretary

**COMPARISON – OTHER NEARBY COMMUNITY GARDENS  
compiled for discussion SNCG 4/22**

**Brown Street CG -- 30 plots, some half some full size**

Status: No garden manager for the past three years.

Tasks are divided up among the five garden steering committee members:

- enrollment;
- work day coordinators;
- FBSP liaison;
- compost delivery coordination;
- annual wood delivery chips coordination;
- SCLT liaison;
- treasurer;
- garden member updates;
- plot upkeep reminders.

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- When they had a manager, that person was responsible for running work days and garden maintenance.
- No garden bylaws.
- Fee: plots are 4 x 5 and 8 x 5. Fee is \$25 - \$50 for the first year and \$50-\$100 for annual renewal. Fee covers space, compost and communal tools.

From one of the original organizers:

*“I think that it works fine not to have a garden manager if the members of the steering committee split the responsibilities and everyone is willing to be responsible for one or two workdays and then take on one additional task (e.g., assigning plots, meeting with new gardeners, buying supplies, sending out newsletters, etc.).*

*When we had a garden manager, we still had to do a lot of coordinating with that individual about workdays, buying supplies, and sending out announcements. “*

**Fox Point CG -- 127 plots.**

Status: FP does not have a garden manager at this time. For now, work is split among Board members. The pay was around \$3500/yr last year, for the season.

- Their bylaws structure the Board and Garden Manager position – since 2006.
- The FPCG Guidelines Rules & Agreement are enforced each year through the Garden Manager *with guidance from the Garden Board*. **Only** the Board can decide if a gardener will be reprimanded and/or evicted.

**Fox Point Community Garden, continued**

- The Garden Manager is the "Go-To" person for the gardeners with every day questions.
- Board meets January thru November on the second Thursday each month.
- Workdays are mandatory.
- Fee for plot \$25-30.

**Mt Hope CG – about 25 plots**

Mission: The Mount Hope Community Garden was created in 1978 when neighbors came together to transform an unused urban space into a place **where they could socialize and grow vegetables together. To this day, MHCG serves to encourage neighborly relations, healthy recreation, and civic engagement.**

- Participation: Each MHCG member is required to lend a small hand in maintaining the whole garden.
- Stewarding: Each week, a garden member stewards: cuts the small bit of lawn on Knowles Street and takes out the trash/recycling/yard waste barrels on Sunday

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afternoon and retrieves them on Monday. Each member is required to do this once or twice a season (depending on whether you have a 1/2 or full plot). We develop a schedule in the Spring so everyone knows when it is their week(s).

- Fees: We have a modest annual dues, which is \$50 for a full plot and \$25 for a 1/2 plot. We also ask for a mowing deposit of \$120 (\$60 for 1/2 plot) that is refunded after each member completes their one or two turns (if you have a full plot) of mowing and trash/recycling duty.

**Sessions Street CG – and MLK CG – approx. 30 plots each.**

Status: Originally Sessions Street had a garden manager who was paid a very small stipend. After much frustration and inefficiency, it raised the plot fee and pays a year-round garden manager (currently a landscape architect) \$1200/yr. for each garden = \$2400.

- Plot fee is \$1/sf plus a \$100 upfront fee.
- Garden mgr. gets a free plot.
- No bylaws.
- Garden Manager organizes the signups and fees, the steward signups and workdays.
- Work sessions are mandatory (5/yr) and must be made up if missed.

**Only the garden steward** may assist in other gardener's plots.