

SHEBOYGAN Ave COMMUNITY GARDEN – Garden Preservation & Board Meeting

Date: March 12, 2015

Location: Monticello Community Room

Time: 6:00PM – 8:00PM

Attendees: Ruth Cadoret, Jack Kloppenburg, Mary McCarthy, Young Soon Lee, Yuhua Li, Pat Soderholm, Dawn Springer, Cindy Statz and Geren Zhang,

February 12, 2015 meeting minutes were approved.

AGENDA

I. Reports

A. Treasurer

- \$9,211 is in the account - plus more checks to deposit.
- The water bill still has not arrived.
- The room rental for the spring and fall potlucks has been paid.

B. Registration

- 61 (55 + 6 in the post office box) plots have been filled. Notices will be sent to the wait list.
- Last year there were 113 families in the garden.

II. Unfinished Business

A. Garden Preservation update

- The Garden has received a verbal permit from the Capital Police. Often the paperwork does not arrive until April.
- Research Education Action Policy (REAP) Food Group agreed to act as SACG fiscal agent at a cost of 10% of any grant SACG receives. The service REAP provides is to oversee and administer SACG use of grant monies. Insurance may be an option also.
- Cindy Statz will ask if REAP would agree to a lower % administration fee.

B. Dane County Community Gardens Partnership update

- Community Groundworks is preparing to provide insurance to SACG in April.
- Community Groundworks is not ready to act as our fiscal agent.
- The Garden Network is still working on their framework and Memorandum of Understanding.

C. Articles of Incorporation – Non-Stock/Non-Profit submittal

- Articles of Incorporation will designate the garden as SACG Incorporated and removes the board from personal liability.
- There was discussion about whether SACG's purpose is "charitable".
- Educational sessions will be kept in the description, but the word "free" will be removed.
- Yuhua Li agreed to be listed as the registered agent with her home address.
- "Community" will remain in the legal garden name, but the garden can leave "community" from signage.
- Cindy Statz made a motion to accept the Articles of Incorporation, Young Soon Lee seconded and the motion was unanimously approved by the board.
- Yuhua Li will mail the signed Articles of Incorporation to the state along with a \$35 check.

D. Non-profit Bylaws – draft review

- The Board agreed to review the draft bylaws and provide comments via email by the end of March.
- The Bylaws will appear on the Spring Meeting agenda.

- E. Capitol Police Garden Permit status – written authorization has not been received yet which is not unusual based on past experience.
- F. Community Garden Summit review
 - Jack Kloppenburg and Pat Soderholm attended the Summit.
 - Not all gardens were represented at the Summit.
 - There was a discussion about whether large gardens and small gardens should be grouped separately.
 - Jack Kloppenburg and Jill Schneider are organizing a March 26, 5-7pm garden meeting at Pinney Library to set up a gardener coalition.
 - The board agreed that SACG should be available to help other gardens if needed.

III. New Business

- A. 2015 Garden Handbook
 - Cindy Statz will update Handbook with 2015 dates/language and email SACG board for review and approval.
 - Since the handbook will be available on-line, fewer copies will be printed. Sixty handbooks will be printed and ready for the Spring meeting; Statz will arrange for printing.
 - Summer Solstice Brunch & SACG Make Music Madison will be held on June 20.
 - New members will receive hard copies of the Garden Handbook with their plot numbers written on the front.
 - Individual garden cleanup deadline date will be printed in the front of the handbook with the work day calendar.
 - The committee discussed an option of paying a fee in lieu of completing work hours.
 - The idea of having volunteer garden evaluators on work day was discussed.
 - The idea of taking a picture of gardens in violation was discussed.
 - The Capital Police phone number will be included in the handbook.
- B. Spring Potluck and Meeting planning – Thursday, April 9th, West Madison Senior Center.
 - Potluck begins at 6pm. Meeting begins at 7pm.
 - Spring Potluck invitation will include suggestion for dish to bring.
 - More seeds will be purchased for gardener distribution.
- C. Garden Resources for 2015
 - There are lots of woodchips for gardener use located by the shed in the garden.
 - The garden has reserved a spring delivery of good compost from UW-Madison Agricultural Research Station (ARS) West Madison.
 - Wheelbarrows of compost per plot size will be suggested to gardeners.
 - Informational signs to reduce garden thievery will be erected early in the garden season.

IV. Announcements

V. Adjournment