

SHEBOYGAN AVE COMMUNITY GARDEN – Garden Preservation & Board Meeting

Date: January 28, 2016

Location: Monticello Community Room

Time: 6:15PM – 8:15PM

Attendees: Pat Soderholm, Ruth Cadoret, Young Soon Lee, Leann Tigges, Jim Baumann, Yuhua Li, Cindy Statz

Previous meeting minutes approved? Yes, as noted.

MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

I. Reports

A. Treasurer - \$8187 (have not received 2015 water bill, printing and postage for public meeting)

II. Unfinished Business

A. Garden Preservation/Relocation Strategies – review of Alder Schmidt’s public meeting, review of relocation options and phasing. A very good turnout (75-100) to Alder Schmidt’s public meeting held at Covenant Presbyterian Church on 1/21/16. Many gardeners were in attendance. Gardeners were respectful and supportive of the efforts to relocate the garden. Alder Schmidt introduced Option A. The eastern “neck” of Rennebohm Park and Vernon Boulevard were also discussed as possible future options. Parks Division explained process to request a community garden in a city park. The garden introduced other options for Rennebohm Park (backstop area, southeast corner, and east options) and requested feedback. Alder Schmidt indicated that Option A was likely for 2016; the need for additional Phase 2 space for community gardens was noted and efforts to find additional Phase 2 space for the garden will continue. A committee will be formed shortly to identify and consider neighborhood options.

Board will revisit area options for community garden space for February meeting discussion.

B. Hill Farms Neighborhood Association next steps – next scheduled board meeting is February 2016. Statz will contact board president to determine if garden representatives should attend.

C. Grant proposals – potential grants, possible amount, due dates, and board direction:

1. Home Depot Community Impact Grant (\$5K) begins 2/1/16 complete in 6 weeks; table until next meeting
2. Evjue Foundation (<\$5K) due 3/11/16 for May meeting; table until next meeting
3. Madison Community Foundation (\$5K) Letter of Interest due 1/15/16 submitted
4. Fiskars Orange Thumb (\$3500 cash and tools) due 2/1/16; submit now
5. City of Madison SEED grant (\$5K) due 2/19/16; will not submit this year

D. New garden design and evaluation process: discussed and defined functional requirements for the new garden to be provided to the design team – including UW Landscape Architecture as follows:

1. Accommodate as many gardeners as possible while maintaining sustainable plot sizes
2. Provide an aesthetically pleasing, maintainable community garden
3. Provide water and water distribution means to the garden (underground w/o water barrels is preferred)
4. Provide plots no larger than 100SF (at this time; possibly provide for future consolidation)
5. Provide ADA accessible, raised plots - minimum of 3
6. Address ergonomics throughout the garden
7. Provide one aisle of garden cart/wheelbarrow width to each plot; other aisles may be less wide
8. Provide means to prevent rabbits from access to plots
9. Provide a means for tool storage
10. Provide options for perimeter fence while maintaining access to general public
11. Provide a means to identify, maintain, and protect individual plots (boundaries)

12. Provide a design that minimizes the effect of plants in adjacent garden plots in terms of sunlight
13. Incorporate perennials and pollinators into the garden landscape
14. Provide a means of potable drinking water if possible

III. New Business

A. Application to Community GroundWorks for lease: the existing lease agreement between Community GroundWorks and the City of Madison will likely be amended to include the Rennebohm Park agreement. Garden request to Community GroundWorks will include language that confirms ongoing efforts to locate Phase 2 additional community garden space.

B. Application to City of Madison: Statz motion with Cadoret 2nd: board unanimously approved that the garden will pursue Option A only at this time and will include language in the application that confirms ongoing efforts with City of Madison and neighbors to locate Phase 2 additional community garden space.

C. Registration 2016 – schedule and plot assignment process: Statz will send list of 2015 gardeners who have completed their community hours to Cadoret for review of 2015 plot monitor reports. Registrar Tigges will notify gardeners of current garden status, describe likely restrictions on the new site, and ascertain gardener interest for a plot in 2016.

IV. Announcements

V. Adjournment