

SHEBOYGAN AVE COMMUNITY GARDEN - Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 22, 2021

Location: Rennebohm Park

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:00PM

Attending: Ruth Cadoret, Pat Soderholm, Geren Zhang, Yuhua Li and Jim Baumann

MEETING AGENDA

I. Acceptance of May meeting minutes – moved to August

II. Reports

A. Treasurer

All fees have been paid and funds deposited. A number of the recent checks had errors, such as wrong year, “pay to” in “amount” line. We will need to enhance our review of checks next year

B. Registrar

No report. Coordinator and past-coordinator met to discuss how to potential address some concerns with registering new gardeners. Will discuss again in January.

C. Plot Monitor

Four problems with plots resolved. One plot remains a concern due to lack of gardening. Plot monitor will email gardeners. We may place a tarp on the plot to minimize weed growth.

D. Timekeeper

42 gardeners have met their work hour obligations. 26 have earned zero hours. The timekeeper will send an email to those 26 without hours.

III. Business

A. 40th Anniversary Celebration

On behalf of all gardeners, the board wishes to express a “big” thanks to Cindy Statz for all she did organize the event.

Pat Soderholm expressed her appreciation for the recognition and having a plaque in her name placed on one of the new benches.

B. August social event

A Zucchini Fest will be held on August 21st at 11:00, following the Saturday work day. Instead of bringing a zucchini dish to pass, gardeners will be encouraged to bring a zucchini recipe. Those interesting in making a copy of the recipe should bring note cards or take a photo with a phone. All gardeners will be encouraged to attend and enjoy cold bottled water and frozen Italian Ice. Jim Baumann will bring a canopy for shade, the bottled water and the Italian Ice. Music from the 40th Anniversary Event may also be available.

C. Ant and thistle problems

Ruth will look into the use of borax/sugar as an ant killer in organic gardens. The board did not see an issue with using a vinegar spray on thistles in aisles.

D. Other items

IV. Announcements

Next meeting – August 26, 2021

Attachment Follows:

The 40th Anniversary Celebration of the Sheboygan Ave. Community Garden was held on July 17, 2021 at the Rennebohm Park shelter. The garden was located at the DOT site on Sheboygan Avenue for 35 years until it was relocated to Rennebohm Park in 2016. The anniversary celebration was well attended. Speakers included Jim Baumann, Nan Fey, Shelly Strom, and Cindy Statz.

Two new Lifetime convertible benches were purchased by the garden for the celebration. Used together, the benches form one picnic table to be placed near the center of the garden. A plaque was placed on one bench to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the garden. A second plaque was placed on the other bench to recognize the 2021 Outstanding Gardener awarded to Patricia "Pat" Soderholm for her extraordinary efforts in garden preservation. Pat has been a gardener since 1997.

As part of the anniversary event, a memorial was held for Michael "Mike" Peterson, 1952-2020. Mike was a gardener for 24 years. Mike's mom, Marjorie, and sisters Cindy and Pamela journeyed from Minnesota to attend the event. Representatives from Madison Chamber Choir and UW Hospital paid their respects. A plaque was placed on a memorial rock to be placed near the raised beds where Mike gardened. The family assisted the placement of the memorial rock as the event concluded.

Many photographs and slideshows captured the garden through the years. Videos of gardeners and community garden advocates were produced for the event. A plan is being developed now to provide internet access for all to view the slideshows and videos. Historical documentation will be added to the garden website as well.