

Waterboro Community Garden Committee and Member Meeting

Wednesday, July 10, 2024, at 3 pm
Town Hall –inside

Attendees

Oksana Sigleski (CM)
Chelsi Burns (CM)
Sherry Stone (CM)
Lisa. Moulton (HM)
Donna Berardi (CM)
Brigit McCallum (CM)
Sue Briggs (HM)

CM-Committee member, HM-Honorary member

Introductions/Welcome

A Member Questions and Comments

1. Weedwacker-see F.3
2. Pumpkin patch: a gardener has inquired about planting pumpkins in other than the rented beds. Discussion resulted in the decision that any gardener may plant pumpkins in their own bed but must keep fruit and vines within the bed and not obstruct the shared walkways.
3. Donna suggested that the photos used for next year's town report include the pantry garden and overall garden area.
4. Sherry suggested sharing the WCG page posts to other Waterboro Facebook pages. Perhaps Town of Waterboro, and member pages.
5. Security cameras: Sue asked about the owl sign and if we do have security camera coverage. There have been several vandalism incidents in the past. Donna to ask Dave Lowe what the coverage is for the town hall cameras.

B. Approval of June 12, 2024 Minutes

Two names were misspelled and have been corrected. The final update sent to committee members. Anyone that would like the corrected copy, please email sbriggs57@icloud.com. Sherry made a motion to approve, Donna seconded, Vote 6/0 APPROVED

C. Financial Report – Sherry submitted the following:

By next month, we should see the FY '25 expense budget in the WCG account.

Going forward, all purchase orders will be issued by Laura Lowe electronically. She will assign a PO number after we submit the check request and/or expense. I recommend that we continue to use a manual PO for committee purposes only.

Sherry also requested that when submitting invoices to email her a snapshot of the invoice to aid in communications with Laura.

D. Organizational Matters

1. Volunteer hours report: Lisa reports 32.5 hours this month provided by 7 people. Reminder to submit hours for the month by the end of the month. The handbook suggests that at least 3 hours of volunteer hours are to be completed by July. Brigit is not getting responses to her emails and will contact members by phone to make sure they are receiving them. A few people have found emails in their spam folder.

2. Schedule Handbook Revisions planning Workshop for Committee Members.

Workshop Scheduled for Aug. 7th, 3 pm at the town hall.

Sherry has been keeping track of update comments. Of concern is the current Waiver. She will contact the town to get approval of the Waiver and to see if current Waiver is sufficient for the organizations.

F. Infrastructure

1. Hose for new shed bed – Sue asked that a splitter and new hose be provided to water the new shed bed to avoid dragging the long pantry garden side hose that distance. Brigit has been using buckets. Sherry questioned why the watering issue was not more thought out before building the bed, asking what the benefit of the shed bed as a pollinator garden was to the overall garden. Sue explained that pollinator garden updates were discussed at the May meeting, and a link was provided for more information should anyone want more. A discussion of procedure followed, with concern raised by Sherry, Donna and Oksana that the pollinator garden creation and certification application process had not been approved by the whole committee but undertaken by two members. Brigit and Sue acknowledged that that was true. Brigit made a motion to spend up to \$100 for new 50' hose, Sherry second, Vote 3/1 APPROVED Brigit, Oksana, Sherry Yes, Donna No.

Following the meeting Sherry and Oksana rescinded their YES vote regarding the new shed bed hose and vote NO. Sherry's second was not rescinded. Final vote to purchase hose 1/3 FAILED. Brigit Yes, Sherry, Oksana, and Donna No.

Lisa and Sue cannot vote on money issues. Chelsi was not present at the discussion.

2. Varmint update – Oksana described in great detail all the efforts that have been ongoing to send the shed pest packing! All efforts have failed, and it is still digging. More to come.

3. Purchase of weedwacker- Oksana has requested the WCG purchase a battery powered weedwacker. Gardeners who weedwack have been using their own and it's difficult to get a lot of volunteers to weedwack. Discussed charging protocol. Suggestion was made that what ever unit is purchased, the batteries may be used in other power tools the garden may need in the future. Oksana made a motion for up to \$250 for the purchase of weedwacker and two batteries, three if within the approved budget, Sherry second Vote 3/1 to approve APPROVED Oksana, Sherry and Brigit Yes, Donna No. Chelsi not present.

4. Purchase tool storage brackets for new and old shed-Oksana requested additional hangers for tools in both sheds. She will take a look at what we received from Sandy's estate and add as needed. Sherry made a motion to spend up to \$150.00, Oksana second Vote 4/0 to approve, APPROVED

G. Projects

1. Pantry Garden update – Oksana reports the gardens are doing well except for the peppers. Summer squash and zucchini producing well. Volunteers have been weeding, watering and harvesting. Beans, kohlrabi and kale have been planted in ½ of Chelsi and Marina's beds that they aren't using. Bugs are diminishing but staying vigilant.

H. Motion to adjourn

Sue made a motion to adjourn, Brigit second, Vote 6/0 (Chelsi left early)
Meeting ended at 5:00

Next monthly meeting is August 14th at 3 pm, in the garden weather permitting. To be held in the town hall if raining.

Submitted by Sue Briggs, Acting Secretary