Waterboro Community Garden Committee and Member Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 2024 at 3 pm Town Hall – In the garden

Meeting Minutes

Attendees

Susan Briggs Lisa Moulton Sherry Stone Oksana Sigleski Chelsi Burns Brigit McCallum

Introductions/Welcome

A Member Questions and Comments

Barb Couture has suggested that something should be put around the berry garden enclosure to help keep out grass and weeds and make it easier to mow.

Oksana suggested putting down a wood chip border similar to the end of the beds. It will require digging out the sod, laying down landscape fabric and adding wood bits. Brigit would need to order more wood bits.

Brigit made a motion to add to the agenda. Chelsi second, Vote 4/0 to add to agenda.

B. Approval of July 10, 2024, Minutes

Chelsi made a motion to approve, Oksana second, Vote 6/0 to approve.

C. Financial Report - Sherry

FY '25 expense budget is now reflected in the WCG Expense Account; however, the carried forward balances have not been updated in the Revenue and Expense accounts.

For the September meeting Sherry will provide a list of everything that has been spent for this season.

The Revised Purchasing Policy will be on the September Agenda.

Sherry suggested we do not use the \$2000 FY '25 Budget if not necessary, leaving about \$500 for discretionary spending.

D. Organizational Matters

1. Volunteer hours report:

Lisa reports that there have been 80.5 volunteer hours reported for the month. Volunteer hours for the season thus far is 234 hours.

Several gardeners have not reported hours yet.

Chelsi has developed a spreadsheet for volunteers to fill out.

2. Discuss/vote on Draft 2025 Season WCG Handbook:

A Handbook workshop was held 8/7/24.

Sue asked about the added section with committee contact info, that was decided on at the workshop and would replace the contact info in the chart as Chelsi did not have a title and was not listed in the chart. Once Chelsi had a position, and was now listed in the chart, Sherry felt it was redundant, so the new section was not added.

No other comments.

Handbook to be voted on at the September meeting.

F. Infrastructure:

1. Town Hall Security Cameras range:

Donna emailed that she has spoken with Dave Lowe. The town cameras cover the garden but are not clear images.

2. Varmint update:

Oksana reports that the perimeter of all beds and the fence have had Repels All applied. There has been no activity at the shed since adding the barriers.

3. Update on Purchases: weed wacker, shelving/brackets, etc.:

Oksana reports that the weedwacker, and 2 batteries have arrived. She will hold off on shed purchases until the September meeting.

The hose brackets and spare hoses will be moved to the new shed.

4. Member Shed lock:

Oksana reports that a new lock has been installed to replace the old one that broke. Lock combination has been emailed to all gardeners.

5. Lumber for rebuilding two beds:

Sue reports that 10-2x12's 12' long will need to be sourced from Woodsome Lumber for the fall bed rebuild. She will call Bud to get the order going. Funds remaining from the spring rebuild vote is \$322. That should cover the fall rebuild materials.

Friendship Park and Gobeil Park beds will be rebuilt most likely in early October once beds are empty.

6. 8 yards loam/compost order from Tibbetts:

Brigit has ordered and it should be delivered today or tomorrow.

7. Discuss possible soil tests:

Brigit is going to do a soil test on her bed. She will pick up extra soil boxes and applications if anyone wants to do theirs. They will be in the shed.

8. Wood Bits purchase and berry garden enclosure surround.

Oksana made a motion to purchase one load of wood bits to be used at the berry garden enclosure, Sherry second, Vote 3/0 to purchase and do the wood bits surround at the berry garden. Brigit to order.

G. Projects

1.Pantry Garden update

Oksana says garden producing well but has started to slow down. She has emailed a report to all gardeners with the amount of produce delivered to the food pantry so far.

2. Berry garden enclosure repair in September:

Sue reports the enclosure repair has not been scheduled but may happen in September. She is hoping the connectors for the roof only will be needed. The walls will remain. The chicken wire roof will be cut, edges duct taped and rolled up and stored in the new shed for installation in the spring and then fall removal. This should keep the roof from collapsing again.

Brigit will contact Pete to see if we can get help moving the enclosure box over to the new shed.

3. Shed painting

It was discussed to paint the shed in the near future. Oksana will price the paint and email a motion to vote to purchase the paint and supplies.

Update-Shed Painting:

Following the meeting, an email vote went out. Oksana made the motion to purchase paint and brushes and supplies not to exceed \$280.00. Chelsi second. Vote 5/0 to approve.

The new shed will be painted Saturday **August 24, 2024 starting at 9 am**, weather permitting. A volunteer request email has been sent to the members.

H. Other

1. Old Garden Books and Documents:

All the old garden info that was in the town hall has been removed. Brigit will give Sherry the old docs to scan and put on a thumb drive. There were many gardening books. These will be put on the shed for gardeners to take.

Motion to adjourn.

Oksana made a motion to adjourn, Sherry second, Vote 5/0 (Chelsi left early) to adjourn. Meeting adjourned @4:30 pm.

Next meeting will be September 11, 2024, at 3 pm.

Submitted by Sue Briggs, acting Secretary