

Manhattan Community Gardens Board Meeting

August 6, 2008 5:45 PM

Those present: Linda Teener, Pamela Been-Redeker, Chuck Marr, Stoner Smith, Patty Zehl, Katie Whitney, Lynda Bachelor, and Brad Debey

1. Treasurer's Report:

Linda Teener reported that all income is in. We have paid for all of the garden socials and the second round of hay.

2. Committee Reports:

A. Equipment Maintenance:

Jerry Vestweber has a 1 year old lawn mower that he would like to donate. He requested a paper receipt that says \$125.00. We have two mowers that are not in good shape, but they're serviceable. We decided to give those two mowers to Anthony the "mower guy" on South Manhattan Avenue. Stoner has only been filling the gas in the small can, and that is working out pretty well so far.

B. Grounds Maintenance and Tilling: no report

C. Flower Bed Maintenance:

Pamela Been-Redeker reported only around 50% the people on the Flower Bed Maintenance Committee are doing anything with their spaces. She has sent email reminders. There was a long discussion regarding participation in committees, and a motion was made and passed regarding the North Flower bed area. We will turn North Bed into plots that people could rent for a \$10.00 deposit per year if they want to grow flowers only. We will advertise them as Flower Plots. Butch will be grandfathered in and not charged a deposit for the fine work he does in his plot. We also decided to remove the triangle bed from the compost bin area to facilitate mowing.

D. Rules and Safety:

Brad reported that he has sent out a few letters, and a couple of people will be receiving their second letter.

E. Compost and Mulch: no report

F. Education and Newsletter:

Chuck Marr will probably cut off the electronic newsletter around the end of October and begin again around mid March of 2009.

G. Records: no report

H. Garden Socials and Crop Walk:

Lynda Bachelor reported that the Garden Socials went well this summer. The Ice Cream Social was really popular. It was suggested that we have something on a Saturday morning. Our next social will be a Fall Harvest Party with some activities at the next workday. Lynda also reported that information for the 2008 Crop Walk will be forthcoming.

3. Old Business: None

4. New Business:

Committee Membership participation- We discussed the ongoing problem of membership participation in ALL committees, and we agreed that the work is NOT getting done. We agreed to continue to discuss volunteer participation as an issue and possibly make changes in the requirements so that essential work can continue to get done. There was no motion, but we discussed the following options:

Charging ALL gardeners and extra fee when they choose not to participate in the maintenance and work involved in our endeavor.

Requiring ALL gardeners to participate in prescribed Work Days throughout the season, with the board members being responsible for deciding what work needed to be done, accounting for attendance, and whether or not the work was completed.

We tabled this discussion until the September meeting.

5. Next Meeting: September 3, 2008 at 5:45 PM