

## Manhattan Community Garden Board Meeting

May 7, 5:45 p.m.

**Call to Order:** President Patty Zehl called the meeting to order. Members present: Patty Zehl, Linda Bachelor, Brad Debey, Susan Peterson, Chuck Marr, Stoner Smith and Linda Teener. There were no items added to the agenda.

**Secretary's Report:** No additions or corrections were made to the April minutes.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda Teener presented the Treasurer's report. Total income is \$5,415.95; expenses were \$3,818.03. The expenses included the bill for the addition of the new hydrants at the garden.

**Announcements:** There were no new correspondence or announcements.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Equipment:** Stoner reported that all power equipment was up and running. Oil and gas were available at gardens. Lawn mower blades have been sharpened.

**Grounds, Maintenance and Tilling:** No report.

**Flower Bed Maintenance:** Flower beds are in good shape. Some gardeners have taken initiative and add new plantings.

**Rules and Safety:** Brad reported that the plots are in good condition. There are some plots that have not been planted yet. Plots will be reviewed for the June 1 planting deadline. Plot N 52 (MacDonald) has ground wire that needs to be removed; this item will be slated for a fall clean-up project. Peterson will contact MacDonald.

**Compost and Mulch:** No report.

**Education and Newsletter:** May newsletter delayed until next week. E-news has been well received. Article about E-tips will be in May newsletter if anyone wants to be added to the e-mail list.

**Records:** One gardener added to database; currently have 12 gardeners on the waiting list. Last task is to document garden accounts in to balance book.

**Garden Social & Crop Walk:** Tea and Cookies event will be held on Saturday, May 18—12 noon to 1 p.m. The June social will be a Campfire event on Thursday, June 18 in the evening.

### **Old Business:**

1) Concrete slab in E 24 has yet to resolved. Stoner volunteered to check with Howe's to see if they could move concrete, when he is done at the gardens. Trash on 8<sup>th</sup> street will also be moved by Howe's.

2) Hand tools have been marked with bright orange fluorescent paint. Brad presented inventory of tools. Patty will contact Jenny to see if she has contacted the Pro-Hoe rep. Additional hoes need to be purchased after the board hears back from Jenny. Stone reported that the plastic handled hoes appear to hold up better than the wood handled hoes.

- 3) Susan has talked with Whitmer sister and asked that they help keep the North garden free of additional Hand tool. She will maintain contact with them. The sister suggested that more cultivating type hoes be purchased.
- 4) Patty has contacted Parker-Hannifin about donation of hoses for the garden several times, but has received little response. All hydrants currently have hoses—so quest for additional hoses has been dropped.

### **New Business**

- 1) Two plots were misplanted and both have been resolved by the gardeners. Chuck Marr will donate some plant markers that can be used after the new garden sign-up to designate new plots for new gardeners. Chuck suggested that all corner stakes of garden plots should be painted to delineate garden boundaries. This project will be added to list of clean-up projects.
- 2) By-laws section on returning gardeners was changed to read:

“All eligible gardeners from the previous year will receive a notice of dates for garden sign-up. Any eligible gardener not applying to rent his/her plot(s) by the second official sign-up date for returning gardeners will forfeit the rights to rent his/her plots(s) from the previous year, unless he/she has made special arrangements with the board president.”

Change was moved and seconded and approved.

- 3) Additional items discussed: Rental of empty plots to new vs. returning gardeners was tabled until next meeting. Discussion of additional garden and garden space. Possibility of offering half-plots for rent.

Board adjourned at 7:15 p.m. Next meeting Wednesday, June 4 at 5:45 p.m.