

Manhattan Community Gardens Board Meeting

October 1, 2008

5:45PM

1. Call to Order: Those present: Patty Zehl, Chuck Marr, Pamela Been-Redeker and Lynda Batchelor
2. Secretary's Report: Susan Peterson took the minutes for the September meeting. Patty Zehl reported that there was one small change.
3. Treasurer's Report: no report
4. Correspondence and Announcements: Patty Zehl showed us copy of the new application form that we will use for Sign-up this year. Linda Teener will send a copy of application and updated rules for everyone to view.
5. Committee Reports: The only report we had was from Brad Debey of Rules and Safety. He has sent out 17 Weedy Plot letters recently. He has asked those gardeners to notify us if they plan to give up their plots so that we will know if we should clean them up on November 1st and offer them as available plots during sign-up.
6. Old Business:
 - 1) Amendment to rules made on May 7, 2008: Do we need to change "by the second official sign-up" to "last official" to fit with other changes? NO VOTE was taken on this issue because we didn't have a quorum.

2) Nominations for future board members: Jeanne Squires has accepted. Mally Sisson and Donn Leach were nominated. Following this meeting, Brad reported that Mally declined the invitation. We need two more gardeners who accept the invitation to be board members prior to Nov. 1st. If you have recommended people at past board meetings, please follow up and invite them. They will also need to attend the fall clean up, which includes the election at the board meeting.
 - 3) Walnut Tree: Butch suggested that it should be trimmed if it will be saved. Board will look at tree during fall clean-up and decide whether to cut down the walnut tree as was decided last year, or to trim it.
7. New Business:
 - 1) Fall Clean Up is Saturday November 1, 2008, from 8:00AM-Noon. Here are the assigned jobs and individuals "in charge" for that day:

Susan and Patty: Returning Gardener Sign-up and Shed Clean Out.

Bruce, Chuck and Brad: Chuck will get the BURN PERMIT. Supervise large group of volunteering students to clean up released plots and clean up North 8th St.

Stoner: Winterize equipment, prepare mowers and tillers for winter storage and empty gas cans

Jenny: Shred compost and work on compost bins. Jenny will need to RENT SHREDDERS from Atwood or True Value.

Pamela: North Garden clean up, flatten hill in parking space, remove Triangle Garden and railroad ties near the compost area in the North Garden

Lynda: Will be supervising a crew of 50-70 (!) student volunteers. She will dispatch her crew to the various work areas, as well as prepare for soup potluck. Her people will clean chairs, get cardboard from Howie's, work on wood chipping the shed area, and lay wood chip paths.

2) Newsletter: We discussed changes in the newsletter format for next year. Is the paper newsletter really necessary, or is it redundant? Jeanne Squires may do newsletter as a board member, but doing the email and the newsletter is a lot more work. We decided to poll returning gardeners to see how they feel about it, and we discussed a posting at the shed area for those who don't have email.

3) Bindweed: Chuck reported that there is a serious bindweed problem with some of the plots near the tracks, and we should deal with it NOW. Chuck will spray some of these areas in the second week of October.

8. Next Meeting: After the Garden Clean-up on Saturday, November 1, 2008
The December meeting will include elections for new Board Members, President, Vice President, and Secretary

There will be NO MEETING on Wednesday, November 5, 2008