

**Manhattan Community Gardens Board
Minutes for Wednesday, June 2, 2010 Meeting**

Members Present: Pat Butler, Dick Green, Kellan Kershner, Chuck Marr, Susan Oviatt, Dale Stearns, and Linda Teener. Guest: Melissa Winter.

Chuck called the meeting to order at 5:55 p.m. at the Community Garden Equipment Shed Porch. We waited a few minutes for Board members to arrive from UFM.

Dale provided the Secretary's Report. Kellan moved to approve the minutes of the May 5th meeting. Susan seconded and the motion carried. Linda provided the Treasurer's Report, which was unanimously accepted.

Chuck announced that the June through September Board meetings will be held at the Community Garden rather than UFM.

Committee Reports:

Dick gave an Equipment Committee report indicating that 12 minor equipment repairs were made in the past month with no expenditures required. The Board discussed the need for another large wheelbarrow/cart for use on workdays to move wood chips. The Board approved money for the purchase of a garden cart.

Pat gave a Ground Maintenance and Tilling Committee report indicating that he had one tilling request in the past month. Flower Bed Maintenance has been done as part of the workdays.

Kellan gave a Rules and Safety Report stating that 2 plots appear to not be planted. Susan indicated that both plots were paid for by the leasing gardeners and that one of the gardener's plans to do a late planting and the other plot's gardener will need a letter for excessive weeds.

Chuck gave a Compost and Mulch Committee report for Don indicating that 3 new round bales of hay will be delivered later in June at a cost of \$50 per bale plus gasoline costs for the hauler. The old hay has been used by many gardeners for mulch. Some gardeners are waiting for the new hay to do mulching.

Chuck gave an Education and Newsletter Committee report stating that he continues to provide weekly emails to gardeners on Fridays.

Susan gave a Records Committee report with an updated map that shows new gardeners who were added of the waiting list and the late plot registration.

Dick and Chuck gave a report on the plans for the June Social. It will be on Monday, June 14th at 6:00 p.m. at the Community Garden. The theme will be Flag Day with a barbecue planned with gardeners bringing a dish to share for the potluck.

Old Business:

The concerns regarding the trespassing and menacing behavior of Tracy were discussed at length. Melissa Winter shared a letter prepared by 7 gardeners and her detailing the nature of their concerns and requesting the Board to take further action to protect the safety of gardeners. Melissa was encouraged to have the gardeners impacted by Tracy's behavior to file a police report. Melissa volunteered to coordinate this action. The Board agreed that additional signage to discourage trespassing is needed. Linda moved and Susan seconded for the Board to

purchase 6 “no trespassing” signs with posts to be distributed throughout different entry points into the gardens. Chuck and Dick will be checking on signage to be purchased and posted. The Board also discussed the importance of more diligent locking of the equipment shed on the part of gardeners as a security measure.

New Business:

Susan recommended that the gardener registration form be updated with a more efficient design. Susan and Linda will do a mock-up of the new form for the Board to review.

Chuck clarified the privilege extended to non-gardening mentees for the current year. The 2010 mentees will have the privileges extended to returning gardeners for 2011, primarily the opportunity to early register for a 2011 garden plot.

Chuck also reported that he has not had any success to date in locating a gardener to serve on the Board for the balance of this year. Efforts to locate a replacement Board member will continue.

Two improvement projects were discussed by the Board. The first is to have stone hauled in for two parking areas used extensively by gardeners. This will be a fall project. The second is to replace the Community Garden sign at the south parking lot.

Kellan expressed the need for more clarification on mowing assignments for the Community Gardens. Some areas that need to be mowed have been missed.

Dick will coordinate the July workday.

Most Board members concluded the meeting with a walk of the gardens to further discuss items from the old and new business.

The next Board meeting is Wednesday, July 7th at 5:45 p.m. at the Community Garden Equipment Shed. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Stearns, Recording Secretary