

Manhattan Community Gardens

Minutes of January 4, 2012 Board Meeting

Present: Dick Green, Pat Butler, Leila Maurmann, Ron Downey, Linda Teener, Dale Stearns, John Rodgers, Max Urick, Joe Hanna and Duane McKinney.

Pat called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. Minutes for the December Board meeting had been taken by Leila and were distributed to the Board. Ron moved, John seconded and the motion carried to approve the minutes. Linda gave the Treasurer's Report. She indicated that approximately \$3500 of Community Gardens' funds have been spent on the Collins Lane project. A great deal has been accomplished on the project. Linda gave a year end expense report for the Community Gardens as a whole. Dale moved, Dick seconded and the motion to accept the Treasurer's report carried. There were no Committee Reports at this meeting.

Old Business

Dick gave a progress report on Collins Lane. The exceptionally mild weather and the dedicated efforts of several Board members have taken the development of the Collins Lane gardens well beyond anyone's expectations. Progress includes clearing 2 acres for garden plots, installation of a power pole for electricity, plowing the 2 acres and laying piping for water, putting in gravel for parking and driveway, and installing a steel equipment building and building a well pump shed. John shared photos of work projects completed at Collins Lane. John reported that drainage at Collins Lane is satisfactory based on the information he received from neighbors. Dick detailed upcoming work and projected construction costs. The Board commended Dick for his project leadership.

Max moved and Ron seconded a motion to accept a \$100 donation in lumber from a new gardener in lieu of plot rental. Motion carried.

Dick moved and Ron seconded a \$50 donation to Manhattan Area Technical College's Building Trades program for their assistance with Collins Lane tasks. Motion carried.

John moved and Ron seconded the appropriation of \$100 cash to pay Jack Conrow to disk the plowed Collins Lane garden area. Motion carried.

Dick moved and Dale seconded the purchase of 12 water hydrants with a total cost of approximately \$1300. Motion carried.

Dick moved and Ron seconded the appropriation of up to \$500 for Robert's Electric to run electric line from the power panel to the well pump and complete power installation. Motion carried.

It was noted that additional items such as garden hoses, a new tiller, gas cans and wheel barrows will be needed for Collins Lane. The use of a tractor for mowing at Collins Lane will be

important. Dick suggested renting a unit. A long-range goal may be to secure a donation for a tractor.

Pat reported that returning gardener registrations were held on Saturday, December 10th at 9:00 a.m. at UFM and Saturday, December 17th at 9:00 a.m. at UFM. The final returning gardener registration will follow tonight's Board meeting. New gardener registrations are Saturday, January 21st at 9:00 a.m. at UFM, Wednesday, February 1st at 7:00 p.m. at UFM, and Saturday, February 11th at 9:00 a.m. at UFM. The assignment of Collins Lane garden plots will likely occur in February and March.

Pat confirmed the following Committee assignments for 2012:

Equipment: Dick Green	Compost & Mulch: Max Urick
Ground Maintenance & Tilling: Pat Butler	Rules & Safety: Ron Downey
Workday and Socials: Cybil Perkins	Records: Kruger Bryant
Newsletter: Leila Maurmann	Electronic Newsletter: Chuck Marr
CROP: Dale Stearns	Collins Lane: John Rodgers

New Business

Duane McKinney shared photos he had taken from the annual meeting. Ron will use Duane's and John's photos to prepare a Power Point presentation to promote the Community Gardens to the Kiwanis on January 17th. Max encouraged the Board to seek opportunities to promote the Community Gardens to several Manhattan service organizations. Discussion followed on approaches for doing this.

A thank you letter will be sent to D&R Construction for materials they have donated for the Collins Lane project.

A soil test has been done for Collins Lane. It has Eudora sandy loam soil type. Chuck Marr will publish recommendations for fertilizing the soil to gardeners.

Pat shared a letter from the Community Gardens to the neighbors at Collins Lane explaining the improvements to the site and the plans for the gardens. This is a courtesy for us to be a good neighbor. A letter to the editor of the Manhattan Mercury will be written to promote support for the Community Gardens. The Garden Show in late February will provide another opportunity to promote the Community Gardens.

Ron moved and Dick seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dale Stearns, Secretary