

Manhattan Community Gardens
Minutes of September 05, 2013, Board Meeting

Present: Leila Maurmann, Ron Downey, Linda Teener, Kruger Bryant, Pat Butler, Cybil Perkins, J. David Mattox, Dean Zollman and John Drach.

Leila called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm at the UFM meeting room. It was agreed the Annual Meeting on November 9th will be a standard pot luck.

Time was provided for prior Board minutes to be read. Ron moved approval of the minutes, J David seconded, and the motion carried.

Linda gave the Treasurer's report and it was discussed. The report was routine. J David moved approval of the report, Ron seconded, and motion carried.

Committee Reports
Compost & Mulch-No Report

Newsletter-Numerous items were discussed as possible newsletter topics.

Tilling-Pat noted the committee is current. Some tilling may be necessary when abandoned plots are cleaned up.

Equipment-John noted all equipment is operational except for two mowers at Collins. In October the major maintenance of all equipment will be completed with estimated costs around \$200.00. John has not purchased the second heavy duty grass/weed trimmer for Collins Lane as was authorized in July. Cybil reported she purchased a second potato fork for Riley Lane.

Correspondence-Cybil reported normal emails were generated regarding reminders, re-schedules, welcomes of new gardeners, etc.

Riley Lane-Ron noted September work day activities are scheduled. Plot 8a will be cleaned up. It was also noted plots 1 and 2 need attention due to Bermuda grass together with under the picnic tables. Pat agreed to apply roundup on these areas for grass control. It was reported a neighbor had expressed concern regarding on-street parking next to her residence on a workday while she needed to mow the lawn. It was noted and parking will attempt to be curtailed at this residence on a workday.

Records-Kruger noted it appeared all but about 34 gardeners have completed the volunteer requirements. Cybil will gently remind applicable gardeners when provided the names.

Garden Show-No Report

Rules & Safety-No report for Riley. Leila is working on violations at Collins.

2014 Plot Registration-Jenn's submitted report was that Returning Gardener registration dates are Monday December 2, 6-8pm at Pottorf, and Thursday Jan 9, 6-8 at UFM. The returning garden cutoff will be Wednesday January 15. New gardener registration dates are Saturday January 25, 1-3 pm at Pottorf, Thursday February 6, 5-7pm at UFM, and Monday February 24, 5-7 at UFM.

Public Relations-No Report.

Collins Lane- Leila noted September work day activities are scheduled and other lot cleanup will be done.

Collins Lane Long Range Planning-Ron recapped the five groups:

- Fruit tree orchard
- Garden meeting area
- Solar driven well/irrigation system
- Infrastructure items at Collins Lane
- Garden management- broader than just Collins Lane.

It is anticipated each group will develop a proposal to present to the Board next spring.

Old Business

Cybil had emailed the document, "Nomination Committee Report" and distributed the document, "Board Tenure as of 9/05/2013". It was the general consensus the Board membership should be increased by 1 or 2 people. Pat moved option 2 be done in the Fall of 2013 which means 4 Board positions will be elected. Dean seconded the motion and it carried.

Board member descriptions have been completed and the content is being discussed by telephone with prospective new Board members and is emailed if requested.

Two no fire-arms signs will be placed at Riley by J David and Ron and two will be placed at Collins by Pat. The one Hy-Vee sign will need to be shared between Riley and Collins. J David and Ron agreed to get posts to place the sign initially at Collins.

Linda reported the County agreed to provide 15 extra tons of compost for Collins in 2013. We have already received this extra amount. We will receive a total of 30 tons for Collins in 2014.

New Business

The September workday activities have been coordinated by Leila and Ron.

John expressed concern about the Hackendorn mower. Parts are becoming obsolete and hard to find. A new mower is necessary with a cost of around \$2000 to \$3000. It appears further grants are not available as Collins is no longer considered a "new" garden. The Board decided to have John develop a letter requesting donated funds for the mower purchase. Possible fund sources are Caterpillar, John Deere, Wal-Mart, etc

Through the KSU Department of Continuing Ed, ten or more individuals would be available for a community garden service project on October 3 coordinated by Tony Ballard. J David and Ron agreed to handle this project and supervise mowing, pulling weeds, plot clean-up, etc.

Cybil provided gardener correspondence regarding shredding of garden residue where an additional smaller shredder was requested. The board concurred this could be completed through using a mower. Cybil will inform the gardener.

Dumpsters will be requested for Collins and Riley after the first freeze, probably in November prior to the workday.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm through a motion made by Ron, it was seconded by Dean and the motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for October 3rd.