

## Manhattan Community Gardens Board Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2009 5:45 PM

Those present: Linda Teener, Bruce McCallum, Kellan Kershner, Chuck Marr, Susan Oviatt, Susan Peterson, Pamela Been-Redeker, and Jenny Guilford.

1. Call to Order: Susan Peterson called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM
2. Items to be added to the Agenda: Linda Teener added North view Children's Garden to the agenda.
3. Secretary's Report of last Meeting: Susan Peterson wrote the minutes of the February Meeting in Pamela Redeker's absence. No additions or corrections were made to the February minutes.
4. Treasurer's Report: Linda Teener reported that postage from the last year has been paid. Chuck Marr brought in the bills from the soil testing following the situation with the contaminated straw mulch. He provided detail on the process, which was rather complicated and pricey. The findings concluded that the 2-4D had dissipated. The total cost of the testing was \$106.00. The postage bill from the recent Newsletter mailing is expected to be around \$100. More income is expected from Secondary Plot Rentals in the coming months.
5. Correspondence and Announcements: none
6. Committee Reports:
  - A. Equipment Maintenance: Chuck Marr reported that the locks on the shed doors have been changed, with Karzminski's help. UFM has the key to change the combinations. The small shed's lock is a little still due to exposure to the elements and temperature. Chuck repaired the tires on the push cart.

- B. Grounds Maintenance and Tilling: Bruce McCallum is waiting to get his list of gardeners who have requested tilling so that he can get started. He will also need a list of his committee members.
  - C. Rules and Safety: Kellen Kershner reported that Plot E2 had been overrun with bindweed. He does not think we should rent it. Chuck suggested that we give it to someone for Spring Gardening only, and spray it thoroughly later in the season after the bindweed takes over. Plots 50 and 51N are open, but they may need to be cleaned up. We will look at them during the workday.
  - D. Compost and Mulch: Jenny Guilford reported that straw will be coming from the same place as last year. Horse manure will come from Fox Creek Stable, and she will order compost as soon as she can find a source.
  - E. Education and Newsletter: Chuck Marr started the weekly electronic newsletter last week. It will go out to approximately 85 gardeners each Friday during the season. He will post a printed copy in the glass case outside the large shed. We had a discussion about how often to publish and mail the MCG Garden News. We decided on the following FOUR times:
    - #1 January –February (already sent)
    - #2 April-May (by April 15<sup>th</sup> at the latest)
    - #3 July 1<sup>st</sup>
    - #4 August-September
  - F. Records: Susan Oviatt sent out a list of all gardeners, their emails, and contact information.
7. Old Business:
1. The leaky faucet is not fixed yet. The Pond Guys replaced it, but it did not work properly, so they are putting in a new one this week.
  2. Howie was going to remove all the debris from 29N and 30 N along with the debris on the north end of 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Our future newsletters will emphasize the need to keep all debris out of the street. All gardeners should remove their own debris, rather than piling it in specific areas in the garden.
  3. March 28<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM is the final sign-up date for New Gardeners. We only have 5 plots left, and approximately 20 people are interested. It will be “first-come-first-served.”

4. Garden Show Report: Patty Zehl, Donn Leach, Chuck Marr and Bruce McCallum attended. There were good crowds and a lot of interest. The MCG Doorprize this year was a pot with seeds and hand tools. Linda Teener purchased the items for \$35.
8. New Business:
  1. Board Designated Workday: Susan Oviatt will supervise the first workday of the year, which will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2009 from 9:00- 11:00 AM. She will email the gardeners who signed up to attend, and make a sign-in sheet to take roll. The jobs that need to be done on Saturday are:

\*debris removal in 50 and 51 N and a large pile near 7 and 8N

\*Laying wood chip paths with cardboard in the East Garden

\*Turning compost

Kellen Kershner, Pamela Been-Redeker, Chuck Marr and Jenny Guilford will also attend

2. We discussed the need for a shaded area in the North Garden now that the tree is gone, but decided that gardeners could walk over and rest near the sheds.
3. Kellen Kershner suggested that we do a fruit tree and brush removal project near plots 26,19, and 27 East on one of the Board Designated Workdays.
4. Northview Children's Garden: Northview Elementary has received a grant for an extensive Youth Gardening Project. Volunteers will be needed to help with the set-up. It could be an activity for a Board Designated Workday.
5. Workday Dates: March 28  
April 4  
April 18

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 5:45 PM

