

**Manhattan Community Garden
Minutes of August 3, 2011 Board meeting**

Present: Dick Green, Ron Downey, Cybil Perkins, Chris Feit , Pat Butler, Linda Teener, Erika Huber, and Leila Maurmann.

Dick called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. The minutes of the July 6th Board meeting were reviewed. Ron moved, Erika seconded and the motion to approve the minutes carried with no changes. Linda presented the Treasurer's report. Linda noted that we had received a \$1,000 donation for the new garden plots. Pat moved, Cybil seconded and the motion to accept the Treasurer's report carried.

Committee Reports

Dick provided a brief Equipment Committee report and noted the minor repairs that he made.

Pat had no report for Ground Maintenance Committee.

Ron reported for the Rule and Safety Committee. He provided a list of Gardeners who had been informed about weed problems in their plot(s). He noted that several had already started cleaning up their plots. Cybil asked about the proposed rule changes. Dick deferred discussion until the next Board meeting. Linda noted during the discussion that changes to the bylaws and rules needed to be added to the September Agenda. This is so they can be voted on by the members at the next general meeting.

Erika provided a report for the assignment of abandoned plots. There is no one on the waiting list. All waiting list gardeners have been assigned plots.

Cybil asked about new compost. Dick indicated that we normally do not get new compost until the spring.

Erika asked about buying cover crops for plots that were abandoned. Cybil moved we do this and Pat seconded the motion. It was approved.

Cybil reported that an e-mail printed on Ron's computer was stuck up on her plot. She indicated that she found this worrisome. Ron said it was likely that he dropped it when he was inspecting the plots. Most likely someone found it and put it up there for her to find.

Cybil, reporting for the Workday and Social Committee, noted that there was not a social this month. She said that Chris did a good job on adding the workday and social lists to the data base. Cybil said that she would be out of town for the October social. Erika is coordinating the September workday and social. Leila will coordinate the October workday.

Chris reported on the Mulch and Compost Committee. He said that the City didn't do any materials in July. Dale has the contact lists. He noted that the City only delivers compost on Fridays, which can sometimes be a problem. Chris said he has turned over all the records to Linda. Dale will take over records if necessary. Cybil also has a copy of the records. We need to remind people about their work requirements. She will do this in the next e-mail to members.

Erika gave a report on the Newsletter. She noted that the next e-mail will go out mid September to early October.

Linda reported that Jenny Chang has been complaining a lot to her. She may be filing a formal grievance. Cybil asked what the process for making a grievance was. Linda said that a committee of three individuals is named. While the members can all be Board members, in this case she would name one gardener at large, Linda herself, and a member of the UFM Board.

Linda said that the seed program that has in the past provided seeds to the garden had sent an e-mail asking for donations to support the program. Cybil moved that we donate \$50 and Erika seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There was a discussion of potential board members for next year. Four names were offered: Max Urick, Ruth Welti, Kruger Bryant, and Leila Maurmann. Pat moved and Ron seconded an approval of this list. Leila has accepted to fill Susan Oviatt's vacancy. Kruger will consider filling Chris Feit's vacancy and will let the Board know at the Spetember meeting.

Cybil noted that she has some suggested changes to the Bylaws. Cybil reported that the last time the MCG By-Laws were revised was 2004. She noted that some things in the By-Laws were not current, such as the \$10 plot fee. She suggested that the Board consider up-dating the document when time allowed. She offered to work on this and provide suggested up-dates to the Board for discussion. Linda said, if a revision was to be voted on at the November general membership meeting, this would need to be done soon to give her time to print out a revised document. Cybil should work with Ron on the possible changes to the by-laws.

Dick reported that Anita Carroll reported pilfering of some of her tomatoes and a watermelon. Her lot is on the edge and easily accessible. Dick said we had similar problems last year, but not much this year.

Cybil asked about the progress on the new garden plan with Riley County. Linda said she had the application form and that Chuck is working on a plan for the garden. Linda expects to turn in the application by August 25th. Cybil will work with Linda on the application materials. Linda noted that Howie's is waiting on any further action for us to decide what we are doing.

Cybil said that she was interested in the discussion last Board meeting concerning the decision to work on obtaining Riley County land to replace the North garden plots. It was her understanding that we were going to make a concerted effort to keep the North plots. Several individuals noted that Howie's had made a generous offer to help with the new garden plots and that it was the consensus that we were unlikely to prevail in keeping the North plots.

Ron moved and Pat seconded a motion to adjourn: the motion carried..