

November 6, 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting started at 7:30 PM. In attendance: Mark Dieffenbacher, Jenny Markovich, Shelley Crandall, Catherine Lafferty, Ruth Marinaro, Jenny Sterlin, and Peter Blejwas. Absent: Annie Chadwick, Sandra Shipley, Michele Troise, Faser Hardin, Forum Sheth, and Charles Gerber.

October 2018 Steering Committee Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report -In light of Forum's absence the report was postponed until the December meeting.

Plot Committee - Forum and Faser are to meet this Thursday, Others were encouraged to attend to help with transition as Faser will be stepping down..

Green Thumb Registration. As noted previously: every four years the Garden must re-register with Green Thumb. The process includes presenting list of the gardeners, key holders, and the Bylaws addressing the garden's mission, rules for membership, and process for dealing with disputes. The presentation is made at the 6th Street Community Center, 638 E. 6th St. Two dates remain, November 28th from 6 PM to 9PM, and Saturday December 1st from noon until 3PM. There was discussion and a recommendation offered that someone experienced with the Garden be selected to handle the registration process. The issue of the imposition of a policy allowing all dogs on a leash, not just emotional support dogs, or service dogs (which currently are allowed), is a concern. An advocate that can communicate the Garden's history and the distinction between a 'park' and a 'garden' would be beneficial. Mark will follow up with an email to the Steering Committee.

Wedding Ceremony to take place tomorrow at the garden. Jenny M volunteered to be present at the Garden as a member of the Steering Committee in case any issues arise.

Honey Sales - There are still jars available. Discussed whether to hold them for the next 9th Avenue Food Fair, or whether effort should be made for sales in connection with the upcoming holiday season. It was decided that weather permitting Cat will schedule a time and day for continuing the sales in 2018.

Volunteer Day - Committee decided not to schedule another Volunteer Day before the end of the year.

Volunteer Hours - Discussion was held about the process for documenting volunteer hours and whether Committee Chairs/Leaders should be responsible for tracking and reporting the hours of committee members. Concern raised that there are a handful of no shows among plot holders and in light of the long waiting list for plots what steps should be taken to ensure compliance and or action to be taken for non-compliance. There are 105 plots and each plot holder is required to participate on a committee. It was decided that enforcement of plot holder agreements will be discussed further. Need was also identified for the old volunteer list on the website to be updated.

Keyholder Index Cards. Shelley has been creating cards for new key holders, but it appears that the cards may be duplicative of what has been entered into the electronic data base. The data is used for announcements such as volunteer days, but a question was raised re whether there needs to be physical cards in addition to the electronic date base (spreadsheet).

December Dinner Meeting - Potential locations were discussed and three restaurants decided upon: Tier Na Nog, West Bank Cafe, and Tavola. Mark will circulate websites for each of these

to the Steering Committee for consideration, and Jenny S and Cat will check with Tavola and the West Bank Cafe as to whether they can accommodate the group.

Brooms - Need for new brooms was identified previously and noted in October's Steering Committee minutes. It was decided that Ruth will purchase and will be reimbursed from the Treasury.

New Business -

1. Concern was raised about a strawberry pot on one of the back gardener's plots that has disappeared. Suggestion made that perhaps it had been inadvertently broken by someone substituting for a key holder while they were away on vacation and discarded. Mark will follow up with the plot holder.
2. A related discussion was held about whether plot holders needed to inform when they are away on vacation, plot holder sharing keys while away, and people temporarily sharing the padlock key. Discussion was held as to whether the padlock should be changed periodically, but no changes in current procedures were adopted.
3. Changing Annual Meeting from March to November: Discussion of considering changing the CCG Bylaws to allow for the CCG's Annual Meeting and Steering Committee elections to take place in November rather than in March (raised by Mark D.) Will discuss in further detail at the Dec Steering Committee Mtg, but the idea is that in 2019 we would have the Annual Meeting (all key-holders meeting) in March, elect the new Steering Committee, and then have the next "Annual Meeting" in November of 2019 rather than in March of 2020. We would then continue having the Annual Meeting every November.
4. Request by Fountain House to be notified in advance of each Steering Committee Mtg. to reserve room: Fountain House staff member requested that we call the week before our monthly meetings to reserve a space at Fountain House; agreement by FH staff member that the Steering Committee could use the Library on the second floor for our monthly meetings when available.

Meeting adjourned: 8:49 pm