

**Clinton Community Garden
Steering Committee Meeting**
Fountain House Library
August 6, 2019

Meeting called to order: 7:35-ish pm

Present: MD (Co-Chair), FS (Co-Chair), JM, JS, MT, SC, CL

Absent: SS, DJ, RM

July 2019 minutes approved.

Treasurer's report:

1. Overall cost of 4th of July event was well beyond budgeted amount. Reading and discussion of A. Padian letter requesting reimbursement for picnic expenses. **Moved (SC), seconded (FS, MT): To reimburse AP full amount (\$211.35) following receipt of his itemized list of purchases. Motion passed, 6-1 (JM).** Further discussion on establishing new policies for future allowed expenses and reimbursement. TBC.
2. Discussed the need for all personal items (crockery, utensils, etc.) to be labeled with names, phone numbers, etc. In future, a disclaimer will be included in event announcements to the effect that CCG will not be responsible for personal dishes, implements, etc.

Plot Committee report:

1. Confirmation of Plot Committee membership – FS, DJ, RM. JM and F. Hardin as back-up and/or consultants. Extensive discussion of plot committee make-up and responsibilities. Consensus is that plot committee should consist of three members, and that fairness requires full commitment (walk-throughs, paperwork, and any other needed jobs).
2. MD introduced paperwork on the plot application of J. Sheth from 2010, serving as evidence of the appropriateness of granting her a plot in 2019. After viewing documents, Steering Committee agreed to accept the validity of J. Sheth claim.

Key Sales:

1. Review and assignment of September Key sellers –
MT and DJ on Tuesday, 9/3, 6:00 pm
MT and SC on Saturday, 9/7, 11:00 am
2. MD reminds Key sellers to ask buyers to check their new key in the gate lock (both sides). Non-working keys (there have been a few) should be hung in the shed cabinet for replacement by locksmith. There are now labeled spots: one for non-working gate keys, and one for bulletin board keys.

Update on Garden Licensing:

1. Continuing discussions with Parks Department. C. Johnson's office is supportive; has instructed us "not to sign" new licensing agreement.
2. It is now officially sanctioned that CCG may exclude all non-emotional support and non-service dogs from the space.
3. The other big issue for us is the current mandate to make key sales available to the entire city, and not just the Hell's Kitchen neighborhood. TBC.

Volunteer Day – Saturday, August 17th:

1. A. Chadwick and F. Hardin are unavailable, so A. Haas has taken on the coordination of the August 17 volunteer day. She is looking for helper/volunteers from the Steering Committee. CL is a tentative back-up.
2. Discussion on what FS should include in email to go out to back gardeners, and CL requests there be no announcement of honey or tee shirt sales because supplies are uncertain.
3. Agreed to get pizza from Claudio's, because it's good, and because they have our tax exemption form (JM).

Spring Bulbs:

1. J. Greenlaw is on it. Currently, there are no requests from any front gardeners for anything special. Catalogue from JG will be made available to front gardeners, and selections will be made.

Tree Trimming:

1. J. Keenan reports that the large, central locust tree has many dead branches at the top. A. Chadwick has a previous proposal by [King], estimating \$1,400 for general, comprehensive tree trimming (a newer proposal from King could be closer to \$2,000). Job would include CCG trees, and adjacent property branches that overhang plots of back-gardeners.
2. Discussion on tree trimming included **sidewalk trees**, **tree pits**, and buckling of **sidewalks** due to tree roots. Green Thumb has been paid already for work to be performed on **tree pits**, and "Anthony" admits to being "a little behind" on things. C. Johnson's office is behind the effort to get this work done quickly. JM mentioned CCG's tree trimming cannot include **sidewalk** trees, which belong to NYC and therefore are untouchable by us.

Meeting Attendance:

1. No action on accumulated absences of Steering Committee member [SS]. The origin of attendance policy was explained by MD, and it was agreed to retain her membership at this time.

New business:

1. Extensive discussion of **A. Haas proposal for barren area behind benches** next to yew tree: create new front bed of shade plants, two feet wide running behind the bench[es]. A. Haas requests Steering Committee to vote on this, so bed can be prepared for Aug. 17 volunteer day. As there were several alternatives to consider, the topic was tabled until next meeting. A. Haas will be informed, with sincere apologies.
2. CL and JS initiated discussion of **thievery problem in back gardens**. Consensus that all keys must be returned when people leave any/all committees and/or give up plots (JS), including back garden keys, shed keys, and padlock keys. Continued discussion on developing protocol for this.
3. Noted there are many front padlock keys "out there", and so resolved to purchase **new high-grade padlock** (using CCG locksmith vendor). Keys will be distributed to Steering Committee members at next meeting. Listed padlock key recipients will acknowledge their receipt with signature.

Meeting adjourned: 8:55 pm

Minutes prepared and submitted by SC, 8/9/2019