

Clinton Community Garden Steering Committee minutes

Venue: Fountain House and Zoom

Date: 3 February 2026, 7:13pm.

Present: Homar Barcena, Naomi Haber, Clarence Klugh, Catherine Lafferty, Mauricio Marron, Richard O'Brien, Nicole Siani.

Absent: Andrew Begg, Tatiana Pena.

1) By-laws:

Clarence clarified that only two comments had been received following the final consultation with garden members: There was a request for clarification of the rules around the banning of pets (and the exception for service dogs), and a very helpful set of editorial proofreading comments from Lisa.

Naomi proposed a motion to put the by-law amendments to a vote for adoption, as revised by the editorial corrections proposed by Lisa. Nikki seconded the motion. The by-law amendments were adopted by unanimous vote.

2) Plot renewals

Tatiana and Nikki will partner to organize, review and classify signed plot renewal forms. The Committee decided that in addition to respondents being able to email and post renewal forms, they may also drop off signed physical forms in the shed.

Homar will pick up any forms dropped off in the shed tomorrow (02/04), Clarence will go to the post office to pick up mailed letters from the post box before the deadline.

3) Filling vacant Steering Committee seats

The Committee noted that the criteria for joining the CCG Steering Committee as a new member include interest in growth of the garden and being at least 21 years of age.

Clarence will send a note to Ashley with an ask to put out the word through an appropriate Greenthumb newsletter or other membership forum.

Richard and Cat also suggest putting out the word through the NY Horticultural Society, local nurseries and/or partnerships for parks. Cat will reach out to the NY Horticultural Society, Partnership for Parks and Green Gorillas.

Clarence will design a note for the bulletin board, Naomi will print, Nikki and Cat will get it posted in the bulletin board.

Richard will reach out to local nurseries to post a call for new committee members.

4) Front garden tree pruning

Clarence will email green thumb about “Do Not Touch” signage to post in our bulletin board and/or around the garden.

5) Financial report

The Treasurer presented the monthly financial report, which was noted by the Committee.

The Treasurer made a recommendation to keep a minimum amount of cash in the garden’s checking account as reserve, with the remainder being transferred to a CD. The Committee accepted this recommendation.

6) Annual Meeting Planning

Mauricio, Naomi, Nikki and Cat will volunteer to help with the meeting set up beginning around 6pm on March 3rd. Pizza and beverages will be ordered via Instacart.

Clarence will send out correspondence this week on nominations for the John Carney Volunteer of the Year award.

Mauricio can print out 50 agendas and other paper meeting materials.

The Committee agreed to finalize the agenda over email in the next week or so.

Cat suggested asking members to bring their t-shirt design ideas to the annual meeting which will encourage in-person attendance and because we’re currently sold out of t-shirt and tote bags. Nikki and Cat suggest asking members to bring vintage garden t-shirts for display.

On the elections to the Steering Committee, Andrew will prepare the ballots using Elections Runner software. The Committee decided to appoint Andrew and Tatiana as Election Coordinators.

7) Off season honey consignment

The Committee decided to put this program on pause until our next honey harvest season.

The Committee also decided to bring one box of honey to the annual meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57pm.