

COMMUNITY GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes (7:00pm Oct 20, 2015)

Present: Anthony, Eva, Jill, Lorraine, Katherine, Shane, Carol

- I. Called to order By Anthony
 - a. Regrets: Jason, Lauren, Greg
- II. Approval of last meeting's minutes: Approved.
Action: Carol to forward minutes to Lauren for posting
- III. Visitors: Welcome Katherine MacDuff; KW Foodbank
- IV. Business
 - a. Sponsorship Partners (Lauren, Jill, Anthony, Carol) Jill has sent a few e-mails out inquiring about potential sponsorship from United Way and Laurier Student Interest Group. Carol called a contact at Lutherwood but she doubted it was a fit with the organization. Katherine states KW Foodbank is considering the role.
Action: members to investigate further
 - b. School Scan Report (Carol) Copies of the draft report were circulated. Members are asked not to copy or distribute until it has been approved. A copy was sent to Water Region District School Board. Peter Rubenschuh responded and invited a discussion at a joint Public health – School Board committee. Katherine will discuss the distinction of this project being a community based project versus a public health-school program with Peter and will get back to us re: next steps.
Carol met with Allison (researcher and writer of the report) and Manuel Reimer, Associate Professor Psychology, Director, Laurier Centre for Community Research, Learning & Action. Manuel is also a founding member of the Sustainable Societies Consulting Group we hired to conduct the research. Manuel is interested in supporting the project.
 - c. Blue Dot Event: Shane attended and assisted with the children's planting activity. He had opportunity to promote community gardens. There was a good turn out- about 200 people passed through. Community gardens were represented as a group supportive of the Blue Dot movement.

- d. Horticultural Society wanted someone from community garden council to talk about the gardens in Waterloo in February. Jason had volunteered. Carol sent the e-mail but has not heard back from Jason.
Action: Shane will connect with Jason to see if he responded to the request.
- e. Yoga in the Community Garden cheque to yoga instructor. Anthony paid Queen's Street Yoga and was reimbursed by Lorraine by cheque.
- f. Kitchener in Bloom: Anthony attended – it had a good turnout – it was a homeowners garden awards event.
- g. City of Kitchener meeting – Yvonne Westerfeld Caruso. Jill and Carol met with Yvonne and discussed many different gardening projects and ideas. We talked about common community garden issues. Yvonne has invited Carol to a staff meeting to sort out community gardens roles amongst staff and community garden council.
- h. School Garden Tour Thomas Amos from KCI requested a tour of some community gardens that his students could join in the community. We went on a tour of gardens – Good Earth, Guelph Street, KCI garden. Garden coordinators met with the students and gave a brief summary.
- i. Breslau Mennonite Garden. The church had a pilot communal garden this summer and wanted to try a plot garden in the new year. Carol referred them to Jim at landfill for compost.
- j. Preston Water Tower Regional presentation: Sandy from Preston Heights provided a presentation to Regional Council on the building of the garden. A gardener then gave her personal story which was very touching. Councilor Tom Galloway was encouraged to hear the positive impact the project had.

V. Recurring business

- a. Financial Report: Bank balance is \$408.84.
- b. Signed cheques for Greg/Jason. Lorraine provided 2 signed cheques for the signees to have available to Carol.
Action: Carol to forward to either Jason or Greg.
Lorraine went the Grand River Credit Union for a statement. They were not very courteous and wanted to charge us for the statement. They also said they would not issue cheques from that bank as their machine broke.
Action: Lorraine will look into other accounts.

VI. Calendar

- a. Next meeting Nov 17th (3rd Tues)

VII. Adjournment