

# COMMUNITY GARDEN COUNCIL OF WATERLOO REGION MINUTES

<b>Date:</b>	June 9, 2009	<b>Location:</b>	99 Regina, Waterloo, Room. 308
<b>Time:</b>	7:00 – 9:00 pm		
<b>Present:</b>	Lorraine, Jason, Anthony, Candace, Katherine, Mary, Angelina, Maureen, Greg		
<b>Regrets:</b>	Mary Ann		
<b>Guests:</b>	Andrea , Michelle C.		
<b>Abbreviations:</b>	CGC = Community Garden Council, OWR = Opportunities Waterloo Region, ROP = Region's Official Plan, TOR= Terms of Reference, CG = Community garden(s), YNCU = Your Neighborhood Credit Union, AGM = Annual General Meeting		

No.	Item/Discussion	Action/Date
1.0	<p><b><u>Agenda Review &amp; Additions :</u></b></p> <p><b>1.1 Chair:</b> Anthony</p> <p><b>1.2 Ice breaker and welcome:</b> Create a collective story using items pulled from a bag. Icebreaker was completed and guests were introduced and welcomed.</p> <p><b>1.3 Guest Presentation: Closure of City of Kitchener Garden</b> City of Kitchener has available 147 allotment garden plots behind the Williamsburg Cemetary. The City cares for the garden. At the beginning of the garden season, 50 gardeners renting a plot were given a letter from the city stating the garden will close due to expansion of the cemetery. The city did not look for other opportunities for its gardeners. The gardeners question the need for the city to close the garden next year due to the large amount of land still available for expansion. None of the cemetery expansion reports acknowledged the existence of the garden. A petition has been started and about 50 people have signed. A group from the garden plans to go to the City Council meeting June 29<sup>th</sup> to ask the city to compensate the gardeners. CGC will assist the efforts of the Allotment gardeners and explored different options</p>	<p>Candace will post the petition to the network on the listserv. Volunteer needed to co-present at City Council meeting – Greg unable to help June 29<sup>th</sup>.</p>
2.0	<p><b><u>Minutes:</u></b></p> <p><b>2.1 Review:</b> Corrections and approval for web posting Corrections 2.2: Taste of Woolwich actually had up to 500 people in attendance Waterloo Horticultural event – Violet attended with Charity Corrections 5.1-5.2 Delete names for web posting</p> <p><b><u>2.2 Business from</u></b></p> <p><b>Design quote:</b> Cost of design for the ethnic bookmark and poster is about \$500.00. It does not include print costs. Mary will be in discussion with Trillium and may be able to move dollars from one budget area to another. Some dollars allocated for website were not used. Together 4 Health funding was discussed. Greg moved that \$1,000.00 be moved to promotional materials. Seconded by Maureen. Carried.</p> <p><b>100 Mile Diet</b> – second session June 15 @ 6:30 pm Clay &amp; Glass Event well researched and supported. Question and answer period went longer therefore not much opportunity for people to mill around the display area. Maureen, Angelina and Candace have signed up for the 100 mile diet.</p>	<p>Carol to forward corrected minutes to Anthony for web posting</p> <p>Anthony/Carol to post the bookmark for input and forward to Digital Candy.</p> <p>Carol to check with Shelley re: web costs for domain name and forward to Mary.</p>

3.0

**Reports:**

**3.1 Financial – Lorraine:**

**YNCU Balance:** \$770.85

outstanding:

1. Expenses – Re-imbusement to Lorraine for the spring fest certificates. Jason and Greg co-signed a cheques made out to Lorraine for \$100.00.

We still owe Brian Ernst Landscaping and Trucking Company money for compost trucking costs

2. Income -Jason gave Lorraine a cheque for the University Garden compost order. Lorraine has been in dialogue with YNCU. CGC will no longer be able to get free cheques. We will have to purchase them at a cost of \$30 – 40.00. YNCU declined the request to waive the fee.. We currently have 2 cheques left.

CGC decided to purchase cheques as needed versus paying a monthly fee for a different account

**3.2 Diggable Collaborative:** Please review written submissions by Candace and Carol

- Update – Diggable’s meeting – Angelina provided an update. She stresses the need for council members to dialogue and channel input through her. Currently she does not feel CGC does that.
- Sustainability Plan – Katherine – Diggable Collaborative’s goal is to help sustain CGC through:
  - Funding proposal – Trillium
  - Support and expand gardens
  - Increase volunteers
  - Increase partnerships and improve communication
  - Improve peer to peer learning
  - Current local foundations are experiencing less endowment support likely due to decreases in the stock market. Most are channelling funds to programs they currently support
  - New provincial funding has been announced via Ministry of Health promotion. PH staff is working on a proposal for \$25,000.00 which is due July 24. This funding requires matched dollars of 10% which we hope will come from the Heart and Stroke proposal submitted earlier. .

Greg moved that we investigate the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion funding opportunity to see if it fits. Jason seconded the motion Discussion followed re: the definition of “we”. Katherine states Public Health would take the lead

- Remaining items to complete with Trillium – Candace
  - Empower council re: decision-making, increased membership and resources
  - Acquire more resources – “get stuff” compost, water, land secure tenure, via ROP and municipalities,
- Remaining items with T4H – Carol
  - Signs/communication Boards. A sub-committee has been formed and will have its first meeting June 12<sup>th</sup>. We are looking at potential partnerships, messages, types of signs.
  - Policy workshop. A sub-committee has formed and will be looking at a workshop in the fall. Several speakers have been explored.

Carol to forward invoice to Lorraine

A subcommittee will be needed

	<p><b><u>New Garden Council Business</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AGM and call for CGC membership 2010. Terms of reference will need updating and we will need to look into how to attract new members and provide more concrete information re roles.</li> <li>2. Council training workshop: Council agreeable to more training by D'Arcy Farlow</li> </ol>	<p>Angelina and Carol to meet re: terms of reference. Candace and Jason to meet re: new members</p>
<b>5.0</b>	<p><b><u>Information Sharing</u></b>          Kitchener/Waterloo Horticultural Therapy Interest Group (KWHTIG), to be held on June 10th 2-4 pm at Meadow Acres Garden Centre, Petersburg. Paul Zammit will be leading the workshop. Please note observers are welcome to attend at no charge.</p>	
<b>6.0</b>	<p><b><u>Next Meeting;</u></b> Council agreeable to a meeting in August if needed.</p>	

## Garden Update Report

### **1. Cambridge police station (Jonathan Patton)**

Initiation of garden met with resistance from neighbourhood – people were worried about increase in thefts and vandalism. Supportive data provided re: gardens and crime reduction. Jonathan held a community meeting to address concerns:

“The meeting went really well. There was approx 30 people. What we found out was that when we had addressed their concerns and reflected those concerns by adapting the garden to their needs that people who were originally against the garden are now in support of it. Thanks for your help.”

### **2. New garden update**

Sites needing follow-up:

- Nancy Strickland in Cambridge
- Queen Elizabeth School Garden
- Urban Harvest
- Youri Lepp – Elmira District High SS –
  - We gave our community garden idea a fair run for its money.

1. Duke St. Park ran into opposition from the Breithaupt Mt. Hope Neighborhood Association...
2. Uniroyal Park behind the Canada Employment bldg was a possibility, but had poor visibility (for supervision/security) and no services (water).
3. Other, private land along Duke St. was considered, but no suitable sites were forthcoming.

We did network with other people in surrounding community gardens and explored a few options, but there didn't seem to be a reasonable space to work in, so things ground to a halt. Note linked with Jim Bowman @ Parkminster United Church

- UW land available for ethnic garden
- AKKWA (Kathy MacInnyre) – start-up or incorporate into other gardens
- Waterloo Region Assent. Community Treatment – discussed integration of clients into existing gardens
- Randy Meakin discussed garden-start-up or support to May Place
- Carla Fraser

Sites no longer interested this year:

- Judy Maan Medema – family away this summer
- Nadia Mushani - school garden
- Howard Robertson School (Meghan Resit) in partnership with Barb's coop near Chicopee Community Centre – School board declined –fears need to re-sod and vandalism
- Charity Flemming – Stanley Park moved

Garden Start-ups discussed/launching

- Lang's Farm, Greenway partnering with Hespelar police site
- Kathy-Waltner-Toews – Private Landowner on Margaret Ave.
- Lutherwood youth garden
- Matt Heppler Euclid St.
- Paula Vallee – Cambridge Group Home Garden
- Maxine – back yard plot – listed
- Cory Kessler – King & Ottawa
- Paul Stumpf has property to lend out located by St Ignatius St Vincent de Paul
- Unitron – Julie Garneau – too late this year – maybe next year
- Eric Horst – St Jacobs/Heidelberg

19 gardener calls – caller asking CGC to consider inclusive gardens for disabilities

Inquiries from other communities: 4-5 e.g., London, Peterborough, Brockville

### **3. Garden vandalism: Becoming an issue**

George Lippert Park - Experiencing vandalism 2 years in a row – gardener upset and looking for plot elsewhere

Chandler-Mowat – not sure what measures in place to prevent theft of produce this year – talked about motion lights

**4. Echoshow** – talked to about 30 adults. Seed bracelet activity done as well as a Word Find.