

Community Garden Council Meeting
Minutes (7:00pm Nov 20, 2012)

Present: Anthony, Dharia, Michelle, Carol
Regrets: Jason, Greg, Alisa

- I. Call to order by Anthony
- II. Approval of last meeting's minutes: minutes were approved
- III. Visitor business (introduce visitors)
- IV. Business
 - a. Garden Coordinator Meeting Update (Carol, Anthony): Garden coordinator meeting went well. Carol received positive e-mails from some of the coordinators. Anthony felt the "what am I card" game was helpful in getting people to mingle. Dharia felt there was a good exchange at the table talk – sometime the group facilitation may have hindered the conversations. She felt there could be more time for mingling afterwards. James was a great speaker and put everyone well at ease. An honorarium of \$50.00 was given along with a gift (current rate is \$75.00) About 30 people were in attendance.
 - b. Diggables – Accessible Garden Update (Carol, Anthony): The project coordinator for the project sites was hired. A meeting is booked in December at Grand River Accessibility Advisory Council for sign off on the Chandler Mowat site. This garden site will be delayed until spring. The Good Earth and Trinity Village sites are preparing to go ahead before year end.
 - c. City of Kitchener letter from Greg (Anthony): Anthony circulated a letter written by Greg for the City. Everyone thought the letter was well written acknowledging the city's contributions and addressing the issue. The letters were collected and shredded. Anthony will contact Greg with our feedback.
 - d. Housing Day (Carol): A project called SEED is available to all not-for – profit housing. Carol met with managers in social housing to discuss the resource and was invited to the Regional Housing Day where interest was generated. A meeting will be set-up and Carol will invite Emily (Patchworks garden coordinator at the EMS site) and Meg who both indicated interest.
 - e. Young City growers (Carol): Fanis has received funds from SPARKS (Heart & Stroke) for a "Young City Growers" project which will advocate to policy makers (schools, cities) for supportive policies/resources required to attract ethnic youth to green collar jobs. Public Health is a

partner on the project. The idea is that a youth-led forum will be held in February targeting these policy makers.

f. Educational workshops:

- i. A garden coordinator workshop will likely be planned for the spring.
- ii. Gardener workshops will also need planning – volunteer for two planning subcommittees is needed:
 1. Dharia will talk to Meg to see if there are partnership opportunities with the Hacienda Garden.
 2. KPL series requires a speaker and topic. Committee felt Greg's expertise is highly underused and he would be an excellent speaker.
 3. Alisa is scheduling a foraging workshop with Jackie.
 4. Carol is exploring a partnership with Bruce but is having difficulty reaching him. Last year he contacted us only one month in advance which was not enough time.
 5. Michelle is willing to explore possibilities of an organic farm tour with Laeppl
- iii. Topics to consider:
 1. Natural weed control
 2. Starting plants indoors
 3. Edible weeds

V. Recurring business

- a. none

VI. Calendar

- a. Next meeting January – there will be no December meeting

We will approve our terms of reference and discuss our plans for the upcoming year.

VII. Adjournment