

Community Garden Council Meeting
Minutes (7:00 p.m., Mar 21, 2017)

I. Call to order by Anthony

Roundtable introductions: Anthony, Greg, Carol, Jill, Michael, Eva

II. Approval/Actions of last meeting's minutes

b. School plan: Stephen offered to engage his Laurier students in the school plan. Carol met with Stephen and they discussed several ideas i.e., student or community engagement plan. Stephen's current class would not be able to help as already late in the course but he may have a spring or fall who could help.

c. Seeds of Diversity: Meeting held with Bob who has agreed to become our sponsor for the Healthy Kids funding. Bob also mentioned perhaps community gardens could play a role in assisting Seeds of Diversity with some of their projects such as heritage seeds – no details available at present.

d. World Water Day – have not heard back from April

g. St John's Cooperative Community Kitchen: They are currently developing by-laws and need volunteers.

Action: Carol to connect with Emily to find out more information

h. West Vale Public School Garden: Carol to follow re: volunteer needed to speak to the group.

i. Seedy Saturday update: Jill and Jenn attended and took the display. Congrats-thirty-one people signed up for the newsletter! Jill suggested that we should have something to offer for the next event – a fundraiser. Michael has had good success with rain barrels at the school and suggests it might be a good fit. Other suggestions are welcome – maybe bird or pollinator houses. Action: Carol to add subscriptions to the newsletter.

III. Visitors: Welcome Michael - the new teacher supporting green technologies at KCI.

IV. Regrets: Jason, Minae (educational conflicts), Jenn (Shane is on leave)

V. Business

a. Letter of support for Trinity Village (Carol, Anthony) A request for a letter of support came in for expansion of community garden project to start up a Seedtime to Harvest Garden Market to make produce available to all

residents of Trinity Village; to provide support for the recreation programs, and structural improvements.

The request was discussed by the garden council some concerns were discussed re: Council's ability to ensure capacity but in the end we felt the project fit with our core values and that we could support it.

- b. Volunteer needed: Lee Valley bird house build/distribution organization. Michael stated that he contacted Lee Valley and volunteered to build 70 bird houses with KCI students. He is having some difficulty connecting with the coordinator re: logistics. Carol stated that several other groups responded including herself with the same issues.

Action: Carol to contact Donna to make arrangements.

- c. Volunteer needed: Queens Green speaker on role of CGC. Council recommended Jason.

Action: Carol to forward request.

- d. Update: Application for funding and Healthy Kids April 6th meeting (Jill, Carol) Jill was instrumental in writing the application. Bob Wildfong submitted it. The coordinator of the project has invited applicants to an April 6th afternoon meeting.

Action: Jill to attend.

- e. Event: Waterloo Earth Day, interactive display? May 6 10am-2pm. Eva attended last year. She states it is a fun event. She did newspaper pods and one large seed mandala. She has a conflict this year.

Action Carol to send out an invite to other council members/network.

- f. Committee Roles/Incorporation: Carol recommended that council take on official roles with the goal of becoming a self sufficient Board. An official Board attracts more people who are looking for Board experience and gives members a role to fill. Jill did some research on becoming an incorporated Board and downloaded not-for profit incorporation forms (4002, 4001) from the Ministry of Science Innovation and Economic Development Canada. She said it is fairly straight forward. It asks for a list of members and their roles, it requires a registered name (cost about \$11.13). Council decided to move ahead with incorporation. Greg suggests that eventually, part-time staff could be hired if we become incorporated. Jill met a community member at Seeds of Diversity who would be an asset to the group

Some of the roles could be as listed below and perhaps two people could be assigned to each role for the purpose of learning and being a back-up:

- i. Chair, co-chair
- ii. Recorder/Correspondence (managing e-mail requests)
- iii. Treasurer/Fundraiser
- iv. Communications (facebook, newsletter, website. Instagram and other forms of social media)
- v. Healthy Kids Liaison – meet as needed
- vi. Policy
- vii. Outreach – community events/speakers

Action: Carol to recruit council or network members to a role and if unable to find people to assume a role more broadly in the community.

VI. Recurring business

- a. Financial Report (Lorraine). Lorraine was absent. Jill approached RBC and they have accounts available for community groups with a minimal charge.

Action: Members to check into other banks.

VII. Calendar

- a. Next meeting Apr 18th (3rd Tues)

VIII. Adjournment