

## COMMUNITY GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING

### AGENDA (7:00PM SEPT 19, 2017)

- I. Call to order by Anthony
- II. Present: Anthony, Carol, Susie, Lauren, Ashley, Siyoung, Anneka, Sarah
- III. Minutes approved for April and June meetings - seconded by Lauren
- IV. Visitors: Josh
- V. Regrets: Nicole, Jill, Jason, Michael, Greg
- VI. Business
  - a. Community Garden Meeting/Survey update (Josh, Yvonne)

Carol, Jill Anthony attended the City of Kitchener workshop held in August. The City is looking for input into the City of Kitchener's community garden plan and invited members of the CGC and members of Kitchener's community gardens.

Josh wants to continue conversation from workshop — asking for feedback on:

    - Wording to include about the CGC in report for City. He wants to show that the City wants to continue relationship with CGC - Suggestions for him to add: accessible gardens, look on website for details, collaborative builds, Regional compost, video. Josh will send out draft the section on CGC so we can make edits
    - Interest to speak as delegation to council for 5 minutes on October 30th - Josh will confirm the date - Suggestion made to show garden videos
    - Grant: for new gardens on city owned land up to \$1000 and in kind, such as, water, soil testing, prep of the garden. They want to make a few reliable gardens instead of just many gardens. Gardens on non-city owned land can also get up to \$1000, but without in kind, it would be more of a funding agreement.
    - Existing gardens: What kind of support is needed? How can funds be used for existing gardens?
      - Water identified as big issue. Other issues discussed include: safety (issues with sheds, stealing produce), accessibility and list of resources (to point to other funders, workshops)
      - New gardens to be kept as first priority. Existing gardens should be offered one time only 'refresh grant' — \$20,000 to water for existing gardens, if there's anything left over one time fund to use for other things that the gardens need
      - Open applications for the grant in Fall 2018, to start using the money for 2019 - allows time to put things together

- Insurance for tools: Josh found that the idea of \$4 per plot for insurance wasn't going over well. Concerns about financial accessibility and increasing price too much. Other ideas: \$2 fee, city pay for insurance, increase membership. If garden is on city property they should have insurance. If residents need assistance, mechanisms can be created to help with that.

b. Community garden research results (Susie)

Susie gave overview of her Master's research from her blog - email her with questions if you have any or look at her blog. Victoria Hills Community Garden over a 5 year period and studied 5 outputs. Found that \$28,000 went back to the city - after year 3 it was positive. Findings are based on City of Kitchener and are difficult to isolate at one scale.

Uses for research: Provide resource for local groups to make case for gardens, for CGC, for Josh and the city in the way the city speaks. To spur continued research to fill gaps. Article about research can be added in the newsletter, and sent to American community garden association and RUAF. Link can also be added to the website.

Action item: Siyoung to email Susie about newsletter

c. Incorporation, cost \$200, board members (Jill)

What is needed: Terms of reference, submit articles, executive, AGM

Co-Chair - Anthony

Co-Chair - Vacant

Secretary - Anneka

Treasurer - Vacant - It would mostly be handling compost orders, put checks in, reimbursing

Banks: Libro, BMO, Kindred - don't need money in the account. Ashley to look into monthly fees at Kindred and BMO, Anthony will look into Libro.

90 days to submit and we should start with name search. Carol moves to remove excess roles off Terms of Reference. Jill has said she is willing to be listed on the board. We should put call out for treasurer and co-chair. Do general call out to members first, then to network.

d. Rockway PS build call for volunteers (Jill)

Need volunteers for:

- Rockway- Wednesday Sept 27 10am

- St Bernadette's - Thursday Sept 21 10:45am

- e. GivingTuesday Meeting, Sept 21 5:30-8:30pm at Reep House 20 Mill St (Jill)  
Information session on grassroots organizations. Email Jill if you want to join her.

- f. HKCC update (Jill)  
Some builds done. Done some video taping, curriculum, online website resource for school teachers. Ashley and Carol will help with organizing teacher workshop. Ending funding in December for theme 3. Next theme is less screen time.

- g. Fall network gathering (our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary!) (Carol)  
Need to have AGM and could use this as an opportunity. We hold 2 gatherings per year where we showcase work and interact with gardeners. The network was established in 1997, so we should celebrate our 20th anniversary. Anyone interested in organizing? We can advertise in newsletter to see if volunteers are interested and can create group to organize. AGM will be a quick overview and call for members.

- h. Northdale Garden update (Carol)  
Carol received some concerns voiced about the garden. A meeting was organized with garden members from both Multicultural gardens and the KW Urban Harvesters. They would like to set-up a planning group between the 2 gardens to help with garden management. A fall clean-up party is needed and as many of the gardeners are elderly and a youth volunteer group might be a solution. If anyone would like to volunteer – contact Carol

- i. May Place Garden update (Lauren)  
Lauren created transitional plan for new coordinator at garden - it is going well.

## VII. Recurring business

- a. Financial Report (Lorraine)
- b. Newsletter (Siyoung)

Suggestion from Greg: City of Waterloo neighbourhood grants for newsletter  
Add information about plans to incorporate for next month, include benefits -  
Ask Jill if she is interested in writing this.

- VIII. Calendar
  - a. Next meeting Oct 17th (3<sup>rd</sup> Tues)
- IX. Adjournment - seconded by Lauren