

Community Garden Council Meeting
Minutes (7:00pm May 21, 2013)

Present: Anthony (chair), Cristina, Darija, Harriet, Jason, Jeremy, Judy, Lorraine, Carol (recorder)

Absent: Greg, Michelle

- I. Meeting Called to order by Anthony
- II. Approval of last meeting's minutes; Minutes were approved.
- III. Visitor business (introduce visitors): Welcome Judy!
- IV. Business
 - a. Gzowski Park Community Garden Update (Carol) Heather received a grant from the city and the garden is currently being started and is full already. It is located by the Victoria Hills Community Centre.
 - b. Lang's Farm Garden Update (Cristina) Cristina circulated her garden plan for member input. Cristina is looking for garden committee members to assist with the planning and implementation of the garden. Carol to forward garden contacts from the Cambridge Self Help Foodbank.
 - c. Community Services Committee (CSC) May 28 1-3pm CGC delegate (Judy, Anthony) Judy requests that Anthony address the CSC which functions as the Board for Public Health in Waterloo Region. CGC approved the request that Anthony register as a delegate for the next CSC meeting in Regional Chambers, 150 Frederick St., Kitchener. CGC members are welcome to attend. Judy will have the Story Telling Report available by that time and will distribute copies at the Story Telling Event.

Judy provided an overview of the research which began last summer. The research used an ethnographic methodology interviewing 84 gardeners. Initially the thought was to arrange the data according to demographics but it was too diverse; instead the information was organized according to 8 data themes with 3 overarching categories; Health, Inclusion and Learning. Most of the report is rich in direct quotations in line with the story telling theme. When asked what makes a garden run well; 3 themes emerged as well; Infrastructure, Leadership and Gardener Cooperation. Judy presented her findings at a Public Health Conference in April.

Judy circulated a copy of the Community Garden Timeline. CGC was in favour of having it enlarged and displayed at the event. Jason suggested it could be printed as a banner.

Judy also shared that the vignettes and digital stories will be ready to release for the event.

- d. Story Telling Recognition Event May 30th (Judy, Carol) Carol gave a brief update and asked if Anthony would give a brief update for CGC inviting coordinators to the CGC meetings. She recommended that CGC members RSVP as there is a Fire Marshall limit to the number allowed in the room. Lorraine, Darija, Anthony to send RSVP.

- e. Community Garden Conference Call Report (Greg): Defer
 - f. City of Kitchener closing Huron Rd Allotment Garden (Carol): A fellow staff person indicated the city allotment garden will be closing. Carol followed up with the city. They do plan to sell the property and the garden will have to be relocated within 2-3 yrs. This closure will result in the loss of 196 garden plots if it is not relocated.
 - g. Community Garden Compost Delivery Report (Anthony): Anthony had 9 orders filled; two were filled from the Waterloo Landfill site whereas the rest were filled through the Cambridge site. Each garden got 9 cu. yds. with the exception of rare which got a full load (It has 2 gardens – one is a foodbank garden). Anthony rode with the truck and the delivery was smooth. Anthony collected \$810.00 for the orders and paid out about \$600.00 which will help offset the negative balance from last year.
- V. Recurring business
- a. Financial Report (Lorraine) Lorraine states the overall balance is about \$613.59 once the compost is paid out.
- VI. Calendar
- a. Next meeting Jun 18th (3rd Tues)
- VII. Meeting adjourned @ 2030 hrs.