

COMMUNITY GARDEN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES (7:00PM SEPT 18, 2012)

Present: Anthony(chair), Greg, Tammy, Alisa, Carol(recorder), Darija, Peter

Regrets: Jason, Lorraine

I. **Call to order:** Anthony called the meeting to order 7:05 pm

II. **Visitor business (introduce visitors):** Peter shared his interested in gardening and sustainable living and is looking for ways to leave a green legacy to his children. Peter has experience in small business and marketing.

III. **Approval of last meeting's minutes:** Minutes were reviewed, approved and posted

IV. Business from minutes:

- Hacienda Open House: Darija was very pleased with the turn-out. The Mayor, Regional Chair and several city councilors were out. Anthony, Alisa and Carol attended.
- WPIRG Forum: Alisa participated in a student forum on community gardens. In spite of a late turn-out, it was a good workshop with lots of great questions.
- Maranatha Bees: Defer as Jason was to connect with Mary VanderMunnik
- To Make a Farm Movie: Movie was cancelled due to Uptown fire.

V. Business

a. Garden Coordinator Meeting: Carol sent out an e-mail to find out if garden coordinators wanted to meet and if so, what they wanted from the session. Carol collated the information and circulated it to council. She has two volunteers from the coordinators but is looking for 1-2 volunteers to assist in planning the meeting. The evening meeting is penciled in for October 22 or 29th. Please forward your interest to Carol @ cpopovic@regionofwaterloo.ca

b. Diggables – Accessible Garden Update: Anthony provided an update given by John Duthie, the Landscape Intern. He has been working with Trinity to work out the final layout

c. Weber Park Celebration: After much work starting the new garden, Rachel, Meg and Barbara have organized a fall festival September 29, from noon – 4 pm (corner of Frederick & Edna Streets). They have invited Community Garden Council to attend and have a display. I have responded that we will be there. Anyone is welcome. (Carol)

d. Conestoga College Garden: Tammy wanted more information about the garden's location and contact person. The contact is Jana. Tammy has been trying to reach her – she may be busy with new students – September is likely a very busy time.

e. Urban Foraging Event: Alisa has talked to a very knowledgeable person (Jackie McMillan) who has foraged in the area for years. Jackie is willing to lead a local foraging event. Greg is also an experienced forager and resource for the local hospital in the identification of poisonous plants. Carol advised that this event would not be supported by Public Health due to inherent risks of participant misidentification of wild edibles and potential toxicity. Alisa will arrange the event for those interested with KW Urban Harvesters and send out invitations.

f. Kitchener Garden Coordinator Agreements update due Feb/Mar: Anthony shared that the legal department at the city is likely to change their garden coordinator contract. He will get an update in February/March 2013.

g. City of Waterloo Water Billing: Anthony reports that the new Erb Cemetery garden has been started but it does not have a water source. It has a tank but no way to fill it. The city has been approached about a water source in the past but they did not have capacity and were unable to find a "potable" water source. Public Health Inspection stated at the time that potable water was not required as long as it was free of health related bacterial/chemical contaminants. Anthony will talk to Jim Erb and city staff to see if they can reimburse a nearby house as City of Kitchener does. Carol challenged the environmental and engineer experts in the field to come up with a water collection system that could work at the community garden level.

h. Financial Report (Lorraine): Defer

VI. Calendar

a. Next meeting Oct 16th (3rd Tues) at 7 pm room 308 99 Regina St S Wloo

VII. Adjournment: 8:30 PM