

Manhattan Community Gardens Board Meeting

January 9, 2008 5:45 PM

UFM Community Learning Center
1221 Thurston St.
Manhattan, Kansas, 66502

Those present: Patty Zehl, Linda Teener, Lynda Bachelor, Chuck Marr, Jenny Guilford, and Pamela Been-Redeker. Due to the secretary's late arrival, these minutes will begin with Committee Reports.

6. Committee Reports

A. Equipment Maintenance: still needs a chairperson

B. Tilling and Grounds Maintenance: We discussed changing the name of this committee to Tilling, Mowing, and Grounds Maintenance.

C. Flower Bed Maintenance: Pamela Been-Redeker and Lynda Bachelor agreed to co-chair the committee, which is responsible for improving the North Flower Bed. We decided to coordinate approximately six volunteers. Each person would be responsible for a section of the plot this year, and we plan to communicate with our members on a regular basis to remind them of their commitment.

D. Rules and Safety: no report

E. Compost and Mulch: Jenny Guilford will be attending a meeting on Composting in January, and she will share information with the board next month. She would like to have several interested people on her committee to work on the project of setting up and maintaining 3-4 composting bins. Gardeners have expressed need for straw mulch, and she will look into getting 2-3 big round bales from the KSU dairy, beef or horse barns.

F. Education and Newsletter: Patty requested that all committee chairs submit a paragraph explaining their committee's responsibilities and outlining the specific tasks required of the members. The deadline for paragraphs to be sent to Patty is January 21st. Chuck Marr is interested in providing frequent (possibly weekly) electronic updates on "hot topics," such as weather damage and acute pest infestations. Members will be able to choose to receive these "Gardening Tips" when they sign up.

G. Records: no report

H. Crop Walk: We discussed giving Community Garden members more opportunities to get together socially, and we agreed to add the words "Community Outreach" to Lynda's Crop Walk Committee. This committee will be responsible for planning social gatherings. We selected three dates for Garden Party events during our gardening season:

Saturday May 17th 12:00AM Hot Dog Roast (?)

Wednesday June 18th 7:30 PM

Friday August 1st 8:00

7. Old Business

-Water Lines- The pond Guys have not installed the new water lines. Jerry Vestweber is working on that.

-Tree Removal-Due the ice storm damage the city is tremendously busy with tree work. Pamela's husband, Don Redeker, has expressed interest in taking down the

- tree. If the city gives us permission to take down the tree, Don will give us a bid on the cost of bringing it down, leaving 8 inches of stump. His bid will include a thorough cleanup of the worked gardens in the area.
- Sidewalk Removal-There is some old sidewalk in the Southeast Garden (where the Childrens' Garden used to be). Howie was going to remove it, but he has not done it yet. Chuck will ask again.
 - Members volunteer assignments- There was a discussion about the number of volunteers needed for each committee. Chairs will note the number of members they need in their items for the newsletter.
 - Mowing-continued discussion of issues involving volunteer mowing...
8. New Business
- Preparation for spring garden sign up-Changes to the plot rental forms included a box to check for receiving Chuck's electronic gardening tips. We discussed the need for more clarity and accuracy when members give us their email addresses.
 - Garden rules-No changes
 - Map-Add Flower Beds and Compost Piles to Map. Possibly label gardens with color coding or shading to make the map easier to read.
 - New member orientation-Chuck Marr will do orientation for new members on March 5th and 8th.
 - Spring Cleanup: March 29th with rain date April 5
 - Fall Cleanup: November 1st with rain date November 8th
9. Next Meeting February 6th at 5:45 PM before Garden Signup

Respectfully Submitted

Pamela Been-Redeker, Secretary