



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 26, 2016

5:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL-110 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Schneider at 5:12 pm.

Present: 7 - Steve King; Greg L. Rosenberg; Madelyn D. Leopold; Aislynn H.C. Miller;
Annette M. Nekola; Sharon Lezberg and Jill Schneider

Absent: 2 - Nan Fey and Danna J. Olsen

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

King made a motion to approve the minutes of December 8, 2015. Nekola seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Schneider stated that the timeline for establishing gardens in City of Madison parks should be brought back and added to the February agenda now that CAC is no longer supporting community gardens. Schneider and Fey will review the document and bring it to the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

[41472](#)

Review Mission of Community Gardens Committee January 2016

Schneider passed around copies of grid #3 and discussion ensued regarding highlighted items. Schneider related that Grids #1 and #2 will be enhanced to add an explanation of each document at the top, and all three Grids will be brought to the February meeting for final approval and eventual posting to Legistar. After final approval by our Committee, the three grids can be presented to the other gardens-related entities identified in Grid #1 to discuss the capacity for each of these entities to undertake the outstanding issues as listed in Grid #3. Subsequently, we can create a report and make recommendations regarding our committee's role going forward. Ashleigh distributed a memo that Woulf wrote to the committee regarding this topic as

he could not be present at this meeting. The memo recaps the committee's conversation to this point regarding this topic, with the end result being a determination of the role of the CGC going forward.

During our discussions of the entities that were listed for the issues, the question was posed whether there was a Parks representative on the Madison Food Policy Council. Alder King confirmed there was not, and we should consider that when making our final recommendations on the future of our Committee as some of the issues benefit from having a liaison to the Parks Department.

[41473](#)

New Garden Fund Issues January 2016

Schneider stated that the Committee should get an update on how the Gardens Network will administer the New Garden Fund in the future. Schneider will invite a representative from the Gardens Network to address this at the February meeting. There was concern expressed that gardens are being asked to donate to the Gardens Network without additional information being provided on the status of the fund. Future discussions regarding this topic will take place under the REGULAR BUSINESS New Garden Fund agenda item and this agenda item will be removed.

[41474](#)

Sheboygan Gardens Update January 2016

Schneider updated the committee regarding the public meeting that was held on January 21 to present the option (Option A) of using an approximately 6000 square foot area between the tennis courts and the walking path at Rennebohm Park to accommodate about 20% of the Sheboygan Community Gardens gardener population displaced by the State office building construction. At the meeting, Alder Schmidt stated the Parks Department has reviewed Option A and did not identify any conflicts with utilities and park uses. The goal is to get Option A finalized by the Council in March. Alder King will check on the timeline for Option A approval. At the public meeting, Alder Schmidt described the possible long term solutions of Vernon Boulevard or the conversion of the storm sewer section of Rennebohm. Additional options of accommodating more gardeners at Rennebohm, that were not officially presented to the public as part of the meeting presentation, were made available by Cindy Statz, Coordinator for Sheboygan Community Gardens.

At the end of the meeting, attendees were encouraged to provide feedback by filling out the questionnaires that were provided. Leopold informed the Committee that these are still being tabulated. Leopold will follow up with Parks on the deed restriction that prevents community gardens from being established in Garner Park.

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[41475](#)

Food Policy Council Update January 2016

No Report

41476 Parks Update January 2016

Leopold stated that the Racial Equity and Social Justice Analysis on a proposal to create an ADA accessible playground and move the current playground to another place, further from the garden, has not been completed.

41477 CDBG Update January 2016

Rosenberg is working on rescheduling a meeting with Susan Morrison to discuss Urban Ag in Neighborhood Plans.

41478 Planning Update January 2016

No Update

41479 New Garden Fund January 2016

Covered under item #41473. Revisit in February with a representative from the Gardens Network.

41480 Gardens Network/Gardens Coalition Report January 2016

Schneider stated that they are going forward with Summit Planning. There have been 50 registrations so far. They expect about 100. The schedule is almost finalized and there are Garden Leader, Garden Skills, Youth, Hmong, and Latino tracks. After lunch there will be table talk sessions. There will also be informational tables.

Shelly Strom the Gardens Network emailed garden leaders with start of season information.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The community supper for Southwest Madison Neighborhood Association on March 31st will be on community gardens.

ADJOURNMENT

Leopold made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 pm. Rosenberg seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.