



City of Madison

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

Tuesday, July 19, 2016

5:00 PM

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

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by co-chair Fey at 5:07pm

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

Absent: 1 - Steve King

Others Present Karen von Huene, Cindy Statz and UW Public Health student observers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Leopold made a motion to approve the minutes of April 26, 2016. Nekola seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Review Mission of Community Gardens Committee

Attachments: [Community Gardens Committee Ongoing Issues Summary.pdf](#)
[CGC Invitation to Stakeholders March 2016.pdf](#)
[CGC Grids #1 #2 #3 Combined with cover letter 5-13-16.pdf](#)
[Guidance on Recommendation for Future of Community Gardens Committee](#)

Woulf brought a memo outlining the steps necessary to implement the committee's recommendation to reformulate its policy work through the Madison Food Policy Council going forward. Following a discussion of the pros and cons of work group versus subcommittee, committee members agreed that the work group seems more flexible and appropriate to engage stakeholders. Rosenberg will draft the guiding document to the Food Policy Council, formalizing the committee's request and providing a summary of the ongoing policy issues with the goal of completion by the September 27th meeting. Fey and Schneider will draft an "activity report" for 2012-2016 with the goal of completion by the October meeting. Members agreed to cancel the August 2nd meeting and will look to December 6th being the committee's last meeting.

Sheboygan Gardens Update July 2016

Cindy Statz reported the gardens in Rennebohm Park are in full swing serving 52 total gardeners, of which eight are brand new. The garden received a \$5000 grant from the Madison Community Foundation which, when matched by a City budget amendment for \$6400, allows them to move forward with the underground plumbing for a water system. They have received official recognition as a pollinator garden, and will be displaying a plaque. The open house in June went well; Eric Knepp, superintendent of parks attended.

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

Food Policy Council Update July 2016

The Willy Street Co-Op's request for funding to tailor its new northside location to the needs of the neighborhood was approved. The work groups on Edible Landscapes, Terrace Plantings and Pollinator Protection are creating a brochure for residents describing "What can I plant in my yard and terrace?" with a list of recommended plantings; they are also revising the "noxious weeds" and "natural lawns" ordinances.

Parks Update July 2016

Leopold reported that gardening was on the checklist for park uses the Long Range Planning subcommittee will watch for when surveying current activities in certain parks. City received \$25,000 grant for Cities Connecting Children to Nature that focuses on minority children and improving health through nature and green space. Eric Knepp and Mary Fautz talk of possibly incorporating Pokémon into new programs.

CDBG Update July 2016

No report

Planning Update July 2016

Fey will discuss urban agriculture in city planning with Heather Stouder, the City's new Planning Director.

Gardens Network/Gardens Coalition Report July 2016

von Huene reported that it is mid-season so there are lots of weeds, and it's hot and dry, but things are running fairly smoothly in the gardens. Micro grant awards have been made for garden enhancements this year. More applications are expected for next year. The Gardens Network's staff and Advisory Team will use winter to plan for the possibility of accepting grant applications for new gardens and major garden expansions in 2017. The new "bee city" that was put in near the pollinator gardens at Troy gardens is flourishing, and helps to show that they don't always have to live in hives.

Schneider reported that the next Community Garden Education Series work shop session will be held on July 21 at Marlborough Community Garden. The topics are Water Conservation and Communication Across Language and Culture. The first meeting of the Gardens Coalition Pest and Disease workgroup is on July 20th. The next Gardens Coalition meeting will be at Badger Prairie Community Gardens on July 27. Schneider also reported that the Wisconsin Heights Community Garden has found a new parcel for their garden for 2017. The leader for the garden has reached out to other leaders to get their advice on garden design for the new garden.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This was Mark Woulf's final meeting; he leaves at the end of the month to pursue a graduate degree in Public Administration at the University of Colorado in Denver. It was also Ashleigh Hacker's last meeting; she'll be attending law school at UW-Madison this fall. The committee and staff shared thanks all around, and cake after the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Lezberg made a motion to adjourn at 6:52. Leopold seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.