



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Draft COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, May 27, 2008

5:00 PM

Quann Garden
300 Bram Street
Madison, WI

(In case of rain the meeting will be held at:
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

City Parks Department Conference Room 108 (City-County
Building)

If the weather looks questionable the day of the meeting, please call Alice Anderson at 608-770-8320 for further direction as to the meeting location.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 7 -

Nan Fey; Monya A. Choudhury; Betty Chewning; John B. Bell; Alice K. Anderson; Mary Malischke and Joe Mathers

Absent: 2 -

Linda F. Hoskins and Renee E Stellpflug

Excused: 1 -

Maichong Lor

Also present were Yee Ythao, Andre Scaife, Janet Parker, Nancy Dungan and Pat Soderholm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nan Fey moved to approve the minutes with a change in wording under NEW GARDEN FUND FROM "should have included both Plot Fees and New Business" to "should include both Plot Fees and New Business." Monya Choudhury seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEW BUSINESS

There will be a new meeting room number so pay attention to upcoming agendas for the change to Room 108, City County Building - Parks Department Conference Room.

REGULAR BUSINESS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nan Fey will ask staff to add an Announcements section to future agendas.

Mayor's Bike Tour will be on August 23rd. There is a request from Drumlin Garden for inclusion. Joe Mathers suggested that they be featured at a stop in as they have many work bikes that would be of interest to the Tour and spark discussion as to uses of bicycles.

2. [08272](#) Garden/CAC Reports

Janet Parker stated that May was a great month for gardens with much going on. Demetral Park is taking steps forward. The DNR is cooperating as is Engineering and Parks. The garden needs special DNR permission to use as it is over landfill. It is still unclear as to toxicity issues with ash from incineration.

Brittingham Park is another new possibility. How large is Demetral - 40 plots and possibly more? How large is Brittingham (near Bayview) - unknown and there is lots of use of the park already.

Jess Bullen Memorial Garden dedication was Saturday and it was well attended. There is a cob construction turtle nearby which will have mosaic added soon. Be sure to see the boulder with plaque and inscription from "Love in a Time of Cholera."

Joe Mathers stated that the Prairie Hill expansion went well and the site is almost full.

Meadowood: Garden leader got over jitters and group is off to a successful start with large youth garden group (20 first night!) and is getting to work together on start up challenges putting up donated fence, rototilling for each other, getting flowers donated, etc. Plumbing bids are expected at the end of next week.

Moorland: Group has adopted the "Waunona" approach of weekly garden time to build more community and focus on improvements.

Janet Parkers stated the Madison Community Foundation is expected to announce its major three year award to CAC sometime soon and she will inform the members. Nancy added that this is a three year grant with multiple emphasis such as: capital improvements to gardens, infrastructure (a newer truck), long term garden sustainability, assistance to threatened gardens, as well as having broader view (including beyond Madison) of local food growing, such as developing options to replace or reconfigure the present Food Pantry Garden Project. Samina Raja (former key grad student intern who co-authored the report that led to establishing the City of Madison's Committee on Community Gardens) has requested related documents to assist her work in Buffalo, New York on the development of a City assisted community garden program.

Sheboygan Gardens Relocation Update: Van Hise and Hamilton and the State DOT sites are the only two still under consideration due to removal of Rennebohm Park largely over one neighborhood association's opposition to all park areas after it had earlier indicated no objection to "non-active" areas as well as some last minute Engineering Department concerns. Also, Sheboygan is hosting a Solstice Ice Cream Social at Sheboygan on June 21st at 7:00 p.m.

3. [08281](#) Parks Update

It was suggested that the new Parks Director be invited to the Bike Tour (Saturday 8/23). It was also suggested that representatives of our Committee attend the upcoming Parks Ice Cream Social introducing the new Parks Director (possibly to be held at Vilas Park). Mary or Betty will get back on that.

[08282](#) Planning Update

There was no planning update.

[08283](#) New Garden Fund

Waunona did get Alder approval after gardeners got into high gear with the rest of the process, and due to their willingness to limit of size of expansion.

1. [09668](#) Madison Community Garden Plot Fees 2008/2009
(English version)

Attachments: [Garden Plot Fees March 2008.doc](#)

A number of issues have surfaced since the new plot fee structure went into effect this spring. It was decided to reconvene the Subcommittee at the end of the summer to discuss the following issues (and any others that may arise in the meantime): 1) Atwood: possible surcharge for oversized plots, 2) Troy: what qualifies as a "city-supported" garden for purposes of applying the new fees and contributing to the New Garden Fund, 3) Marlborough: boycott of fees by several gardeners, 4) General: gardeners who may have multiple plots in different locations, and 5) General: acknowledging seniority when gardeners change locations.

[09678](#) 2008 Community Gardens Plot Fee Schedule (Spanish version)]

Attachments: [Garden Plot Fees Spanish.doc](#)

CALENDAR REVIEW

Nan Fey suggested moving the meeting currently scheduled for Thanksgiving week of November 25th into early December. Nan will follow up.

**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS - June 24 (at Sheboygan Gardens weather permitting),
September 23, October 28 and November 25th.**

ADJOURNMENT

**Nan Fey moved to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by
Monya Choudhury. The meeting was adjourned at 6:11 p.m.**