



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

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Tuesday, September 23, 2008

5:00 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room 108 Parks Department Conference Room (CCB)

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 -

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

**Absent:** 5 -

Andre Scaife; Betty Chewning; Linda F. Hoskins; Maichong Lor and Renee E Stellpflug

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes from the May 27, 2008 were deferred due to numbering problems.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**NEW BUSINESS - There was a request by Midvale Gardens to make an informational presentation at an upcoming meeting.**

**REGULAR BUSINESS - REPORTS**

1. [08272](#) Garden/CAC Reports

**Marlborough:** Gardeners have made over 100 mosaic tiles to install at children's play area and other intersections.

**Hammersley:** This is a new garden that has been put back into play by three surrounding neighborhoods after it was initially given no recommendation by the Greentree Association. The site is at the intersection of all four neighborhoods and on the boundary line of Greentree. Southwest water lines: This initiative has been complicated by post-bid requirements by both the Water Utility and Parks plumbers which have taken extra time to sort out. There is now agreement on how to proceed between these parties and better communication and commitment to complete them this season. **Reindahl:** Garden worked hard to install a shed in time for the Bike Tour.

**Prairie Hills:** This second year garden successfully doubled in size and numbers!

**Sheboygan:** The relocation is stalled at present. It is scheduled for 2010 but the State has yet to provide an on-site option for comparison as requested in the Relocation Task Force process. The only other site till under consideration is on the joint Van Hise/Hamilton school campus grounds. This site has significant issues with hours of access, slope, and potential use conflicts which have not been explored. Further, it is at a mile distant from the present location and may be unworkable for many of the elderly and limited mobility users who live very close to the present site. **Leaders Gathering:** Over 30 leaders came to a lively self-directed interchange of topics held at Troy Gardens. They have established a listserve to continue sharing amongst themselves.

**Bike Tour:** Around 50 attended a full schedule touring four eastside gardens with the Mayor able to be there for the whole time.

2. [08281](#) Parks Update

None

3. [08282](#) Planning Update

The City Zoning Code rewrite is the major Planning effort at this time. (See Sustainable Community Development Code draft from Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute and University of Denver School of Law for a good example of changes possible). There is a group coordinated through the Madison Area Community Land Trust that is currently discussing urban agriculture with focus on having input this fall into the City's Zoning Code rewrite process. CAC is participating in part to see that it does no inadvertent harm to community gardens while recognizing that small-scale agriculture is important to local food security. It was also mentioned that the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) standards now include community gardens and urban agriculture in their ratings checklist.

4. [08283](#) New Garden Fund

Fourteen inquiries for establishing new gardens have already been received by CAC. There have also been request for information and support to establish gardens in Middleton and Oregon as well as language in Fitchburg Plans that references establishing community gardens. This led to a discussion about the New Garden Fund finances, especially the 10% contribution from established gardens and making the change from grants to revolving loans given the dearth of funds. There was also some question as to whether the NGF was to remain limited to Madison in the future and what to do in light of these potential outside requests. There was a request for clarification at the next meeting as to how the Madison Community Foundation Sustainability Grant scope is meshing with the New Garden Fund and also its involvement with the urban agriculture effort mentioned above.

5. [09055](#) Garden Plot Fees

**Attachments:** [Garden Plot Fees \(English\) March 2008.pdf](#)  
[Garden Plot Fees Spanish 2008.pdf](#)

The request that gardens donate 10% of their plot fees to the New Garden Fund needs to be communicated more clearly. The garden registration forms should include the address where the donations should be sent, and a date by which this should be done; language should also be added to NGF applications to explain that this is where some of the funding for new gardens comes from. The Plot Fee group will add these to its list of issues to discuss.

Donations should be sent to the Madison Community Foundation  
New Gardens Fund  
2 Science Court, PO Box 5010;  
Madison, WI 53705.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Janet Parker's leave of absence - Janet will be on leave through the end of February and there were questions about coverage especially in regards to the New Garden Fund application process. This is compounded by the fact that Ben Sommers will be leaving CAC November 15th to pursue a long held desire to work and travel in Central America. It was recommended that a resolution honoring Ben's service be drawn up. Joe will report back on CAC's hiring plans.

## SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

October 28, November 25th and December 2nd. Nan Fey proposed that the November 25th meeting be cancelled to avoid holiday issues and that the committee meet instead on December 2nd.

## ADJOURNMENT

Alice Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting and John Bell seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.