



City of Madison

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

Tuesday, December 1, 2009

5:00 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 108 (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

Present: 9 -

Nan Fey; Monya A. Choudhury; John B. Bell; Annette M. Nekola; Andre Scaife; Alice K. Anderson; Mary Malischke; Joe Mathers and Nicole M. Craig

Absent: 2 -

Betty Chewning and Yee (Shrewnaoxai) Ythao

Others present: Cheryl DeWalt, Antonio Colas, Nancy Dungan, Sue Rosa and Kevin Schlessner.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes were approved with a change noting that Joe Mathers was excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Antonio Colas of Reindahl Garden informed the committee that they are expanding and that he was seeking help to expand the water system as well.

NEW BUSINESS

16685

Committee Member Terms and Expirations

There is at present one vacancy (Mai Chong Lor has left) with several other members in flux. Mary Malischke believes that her term does not expire in January 2010 and will check with the Mayor's Office about this. Alice Anderson is stepping down at Co-Chair and may be leaving the committee as well. Nan Fey would also like to step down as a Co-Chair, but will remain as a member. Andre Scaife is in line to become Co-Chair and John Bell agreed to work with him. Mathers requested clarification as to his status as Resource to the Committee and if Nicole Craig had gotten same status so they could alternate meetings.

[16686](#)

Role of the New Garden Fund Subcommittee

It seems there is a need for a historical document that details the operations of the New Garden Fund Subcommittee as to policy regarding eligibility. The recent New Garden Fund Panel meeting reviewed criteria and essentially reaffirmed the present priority for individual plot gardens but would entertain others (if there were fewer applicants or greater resources). There was a suggestion by Fey that this be taken up in January. Request by Dungan that supporting info be made available prior to meeting.

REGULAR BUSINESS - REPORTS

[15100](#)

Garden/CAC Reports

Craig made a presentation about community gardens at the Mayor's Roundtable, attended a recent Central Park meeting, is planning a Youth Gardening Conference for February, has initiated a lease for a new McCormick Garden, and sent out 11 New Garden Fund applications. Mathers met with Joe Mingle re: new Worthington Garden on Salvation Army property (was asked about using nearby park and level of local interest by Dungan) has been technical support to Reindahl expansion, assisted East High Garden expansion (has resident plots, too), been involved with Badger School urban ag (has garden component) and assisted Sheboygan Garden Preservation Committee. Both CAC staff assisted Truax year end reorganizing meeting and attended land banking workshop. Malischke reported on Garden Committee Letter in support of Sheboygan Garden as about to be sent out.

[08281](#)

Parks Update

Madison Fruits and Nuts Initiative notice for upcoming meeting was sent out. Parks Commission is supportive.

[14868](#)

Planning Update

Fey reported that Zoning Code Rewrite is ongoing and sustainability issues are being worked through. Urban agriculture sections are included.

[08283](#)

New Garden Fund

Anderson reported that New Garden Fund Panel met to identify and rank criteria and that these are sent out to new applicants. They are asking previous New Garden Fund recipients to come in to the Panel to report on progress and also are seeking to recruit new membership there. Dungan suggested that recruitment communication(s) list the time commitments, responsibilities, qualifications, etc.

Another item of discussion was using Panel for the vetting of gardens outside Madison city limits given that there are additional funds available. Panel members felt that due to time constraints (only one month to analyze proposals, arrange site visits/meetings with applicant groups, develop reports and decide) that they were unable to take this on and that another process was needed. Dungan suggested that they consider broader impact and encouraged using similar approach and asked that some members of Panel act as resources to any new group process. Dungan also recommended that the issue needs to be addressed proactively by this Committee (along with Madison Community Foundation and the Community Action Coalition) exploring how to build a larger collaboration to be most efficient in allocating these resources.

[09055](#)

Garden Plot Fees

There were additional survey returns from leaders and there will be a report forthcoming.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2010 meeting dates are: January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, June 22, September 28, October 26 and December 7th.

COMMUNICATIONS

None reported.

None reported.

ADJOURNMENT

Nan Fey made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mary Malischke. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.