

MEETING NOTES AND COMMENT SHEET COMPILATION

Community Meeting: Community Gardens in Rennebohm Park

Thursday, January 21 2016

OVERVIEW

Approximately 75 people attended the community input session organized by Alder Schmidt at the Covenant Presbyterian Church. The meeting began with a presentation on, process issues involved in placing a garden in parks, history of the Sheboygan Gardens, a short-term solution to garden placement for 2016 and possible long-term ideas for 2017 and beyond. Attendees were able to ask questions of the presenters regarding the short and long-term solutions, garden placement process and timeframes.

Comment sheets were circulated and collected. Below is a compilation of the questions and some consolidations of general comments under each question. Actual comment sheets were forwarded on to Parks planning, along with 9 written email comments (7 for, 2 against), 1 paper on garden benefits and 12 garden group surveys.

COMPILATION

1. If the community gardens are located in Rennebohm Park, please describe what is important to you about their design, location, or maintenance.

Most comments related to putting the garden close to where gardeners live (Sheboygan Ave Apts., particularly), neatness, adequate light, water, signage, access and safety for users. Security from theft of the food was also a concern, as well as, concerns that the drainage from the garden should not impact the neighboring apartments. .

2. Would you want a garden plot in Rennebohm Park?

Yes	42
No	16
Don't Know	7

3. On a scale of 1 to 5, mark your level of support for community gardens to be located in Rennebohm Park near the tennis courts.

1. Don't support	12
3. Somewhat	3
5. Strongly support	48

4. If you do not support the community gardens in Rennebohm Park, please describe why not?

Most negative comments on placing the garden in park related to it taking up too much space in an already crowded, fully recreationally programmed park, future park space needs with increased housing being developed.

A deed restriction on the use of land in Garner Park generated some concern about whether gardens are an appropriate or legal park use; this deed restriction does not apply in Rennebohm Park.