



# City of Madison

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

## Meeting Minutes - Draft COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

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Tuesday, September 27, 2011

5:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.  
Room LL120 - Madison Municipal Building

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### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

**Present:** 10 -

Nan Fey; Ald. Matthew J. Phair; Yimmuj Yang; Annette M. Nekola;  
Joseph E. Muellenberg; Jill Schneider; Melissa Gavin; Joe Mathers; Nicole  
M. Craig and Nancy A. Dungan

**Absent:** 1 -

Kevin Schiesser

**Others present:** Samantha Dalsing, gardener at Reindahl.

The committee welcomed new members, Joe Muellenberg, (UW-Extension Youth Nutrition Educator), Alder Matt Phair and Yimmuj Yang, (Westside Community Market.)

Luke Thao, minister at Sherman Avenue United Methodist Church is scheduled for appointment approval in time for the October meeting.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The June 28, 2011 minutes were not available for approval. Minutes for June and September will be considered for approval at the October committee meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - None.**

**DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS - None.**

### NEW BUSINESS

The committee may want to schedule meetings in July and August - this will be discussed at the October meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS - None**

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[18897](#) CDBG Update

None.

[08281](#) Parks Update

Betty Chewnings's term on the Parks Commission ended over the summer. Fey hopes a new representative from Parks will be appointed to Community Gardens Committee by the October meeting.

[15100](#) Garden/CAC Reports

1. Jason Clay has left CAC garden staff and CAC does not plan to fill the position due to anticipated budget cuts. Federal funding for the agency and community garden program is very uncertain at this time. Nancy Dungan shared that HUD allocations to City of Madison are similarly uncertain, and funding priorities for 2012 allocations are unknown at this time.
2. The Olds Seed Co. has gone out of business and donated many seed to CAC to distribute to comm. gardens.
3. The Garden Bike tour held in late Aug was successful with approximately 30 folks joining the tour. The Mayor greeted the group at the start; and tour included stops at Sheboygan, Old Sauk, Gammon Rd and Eagle Heights and FH King.
4. The Harvest Potluck Celebration is scheduled for Oct 19 from 6 – 8 pm at the Catholic Multi-cultural Center
5. The re-establishment of a community garden on Badger Rd was very successful this year, and there are plans to expand the 70 plot garden to provide an additional 20 plots to accommodate new Bhutanese refugees coming to Madison.
6. Process to establish a new garden in Brittingham Park is moving along. CAC will be meeting next week with Parks staff and neighbors to review two potential sites.
7. Joe Muellenberg reported that a new group, GrassRoots Outdoor Wonder (GROW) has started to come together to share resources and opportunities for collaboration on outdoor activities for youth. Gardening is a major focus of the group, which includes Sustain Dane, Van Hise parents, 4H, Troy Youth, UW Extension, and others. More information is available on its website: [growmadison.net](http://growmadison.net).
8. A collaborative grant application has been submitted by Tokay Middle School, a \$50,000 planning grant for an "Open Places, Sacred Spaces" grant. t. Partners include CAC, Public Health, UW Extension, Sustain Dane, and others.
9. The Darbo/Worthington garden currently located on private land is looking to relocate because the land will be used for other development. 10 plots will be affected and they are looking at Worthington Park as possible space. CAC is working with neighborhood gardeners to store tools for winter and will be working on finding another site for the garden.
10. CAC volunteers are working on a comprehensive history of community gardens in Madison.

[14868](#)

Planning Update

1. Fey reported that the zoning code revisions continue to work their way through the City's approval process.
2. Francis Eanes, a graduate student at UW in Gro-Ecology, is compiling a list of vacant parcels in the City with possible agriculture uses, including potential sites for community gardens. He will be invited to present his information to the committee in the spring..

[08283](#)

New Garden Fund - Madison Community Foundation Account

Nicole Craig reviewed the history and program for new committee members. Fund balance is currently \$9,090 and comprised from 10% of garden plot fees and individual contributions; annual allocations are limited to 25% of fund total; CAC oversees application process with NGF funding recommendations made by panel consisting of reviewers from local gardens; full Garden Committee reviews and approves final allocations.

**COMMUNICATIONS - None.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - None.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.