



City of Madison

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Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved COMMUNITY GARDENS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 22, 2008

5:00 PM

210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room 103A (City-County Building)

CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair, Nan Fey at 5:06 p.m.

Present: 7 -

Nan Fey; William W. Barker; John B. Bell; Alice K. Anderson; Maichong Lor; Mary Malischke and Joe Mathers

Excused: 3 -

Monya A. Choudhury; Linda F. Hoskins and Renee E Stellpflug

Others present were Nancy Dungan (CDBG staff), Joel Plant (Mayor's Office), Yee Lee (CAC), Martha Stahl (spanish translator).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Fey, seconded by Barker, to Approve the Minutes. John Bell moved that an amendment that the words "Sandberg School:" be added to the start of the second paragraph under "Reports - 3. School Garden Partnerships." The motion passed by voice vote.

There was a request from the Co-Chair, Nan Fey, for unanimous consent that the Order of Business be changed to allow a full discussion and decision of the time critical "Unfinished Business Item: A. Garden Plot Fee Working Group Update. This was unanimously agreed to.

PUBLIC COMMENT - no members of the public were present.

REPORTS

3. [08272](#) Garden/CAC Reports - November, 2007

Joe Mathers stated that the main effort has been to assist with New Garden fund start-ups (which will be covered below), with the exception of Sheboygan Garden Relocation Working Group efforts. Mary Malischke and Joe Mathers reported that an initial list of 10 sites has been narrowed to three (including the option of being relocated on the Hill Farms site).

The other two locations are Rennebohm Park (in the zone between active and inactive areas) and at paired Van Hise/Hamilton school campus. The school district representative presented (to the Sheboygan relocation group), the

arrangement that Midvale Garden worked out as an example of how the Sheboygan Gardens might reach an accommodation matching educational and community garden needs. The relocation recommendation is expected before April and the State had re-engaged the Vanderwalle firm to assist with new renderings.

4. [08281](#) Parks Update - November, 2007

None except that Bill Barker mentioned that commission members were pleased with the overall diversity that gardens bring to Parks.

5. [08282](#) Planning Update - November, 2007

Nan Fey stated the current site plan for Phase II of the Allied Drive Redevelopment, shows a new area for a community garden and Nan suggested that the Committee continue to track this possibility. Another area off the bike trail that is under consideration, seems to present some problems from the gardener's perspective with issues of theft and exposure that would need to be resolved, as it was felt to be a difficult location. The group discussed either sending a memo to the Community Development Authority about plans at Allied, and also seeking information about a possible in-fill development at CDA's Truax location that may affect the garden there. Joe Mathers also suggested a meeting with the CDA Board or a delegate, may be in order open a dialogue on these and possible future CDA sites.

6. [08283](#) New Garden Fund - November, 2007

Joe Mathers reported there were at least five sites with groups submitting that he was aware of: (Demetral (new), Prairie Hills (expansion), Windom Hills/Seventh Day (new), Meadowood (new), Waunona (expansion) and possibly others as well. He reported that there would not be a group submitting for Hammersley Park, as all those interested were focused on Falk School, and the Greentree Association was proposing other locations (off Schroeder Road or at Chapel Hills Park) and would not sponsor that location. CAC will be working with Prairie Hills to make sure that duplex residents were made aware of that garden (which is about the same distance away). Joe also reported that Durrell Raimer, a member of the Southwest Neighborhood Plan steering committee, would be asking about extending the funding timeline if another location was ultimately agreed upon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Garden Plot Fee Working Group Update

A draft that was the result of many working committee meetings was presented outlining the new fee structure replacing the current five tiered chart with a three tiered one. This addressed the committee's Goals to "sustain existing gardens, help create new ones, promote equity and fairness, and simplify the fee structure". Overall plot fees have not been raised for approximately 10 years.

There was recognition that plot fees alone would not sustain gardens (Bill Barker.) There is also a provision that 10% of plot fees go directly into the New Garden Fund. Joe Mathers (CAC), presented data for several gardens showing the projected change in revenue from the new fee proposal. There was consensus to review the plot fees every two years.

There is a Public Hearing on Feb. 12th at 6:00 at the City County Buildin, Room 201 to get feedback. There was a discussion of using media (Hmong & Spanish radio programs), email to notify gardeners, as well as posting and handing out notices.

This new fee structure will be finalized at the next Community Garden Committee meeting on February 26th (in order to be available for use in the March garden registration meetings). A motion by Bill Barker and was seconded by John Bell, to approve this new fee proposal (with possible minor adjustments which will be sent along to members by the working group) was passed.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS: February 26, March 25, April 22, May 27, June 24, September 23, October 28 and November 25th.

Note: There will be a Public Hearing regarding Garden Plot Fees to be held on February 12, 2008 at 6:00 PM in Room 201 of the City County Building, 210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Madison, WI.

ADJOURNMENT