



City of Madison

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

Tuesday, February 23, 2016

5:00 PM

215 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Room LL-110 (Madison Municipal Building)

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Fey at 5:07 pm.

Present: 7 - Madelyn D. Leopold; Aislynn H.C. Miller; Annette M. Nekola; Sharon Lezberg; Nan Fey; Danna J. Olsen and Jill Schneider

Absent: 2 - Steve King and Greg L. Rosenberg

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lezberg made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2016, as printed with change suggested by Leopold to #41474. The motion was seconded by Leopold. Motion passed by a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None

NEW BUSINESS

[41850](#)

Revise Timeline for Establishing Community Gardens in City of Madison Parks February 2016

Fey explained this item was added to the agenda because the Timeline for Establishing Community Gardens in City of Madison Parks is out of date. The document should be reviewed by Gardens Network staff for their input and then brought to the Committee for our review.

OLD BUSINESS

[41851](#)

Review Mission of Community Gardens Committee February 2016

Grids #1, #2 and #3 were distributed along with a document outlining the changes to each Grid since last review. The changes were reviewed one by one. All were approved with additional changes as noted below:

Grid #1:

- Removed Madison Parks Foundation

Grid #2:

- Under item 3(e), changed date Brittingham was established from 2013 to 2014
- Under item 3(e), changed date Marlborough was established from 1970s to 1976.
- Under item 3(e), reordered the list of gardens in parks to be chronological (oldest to newest), rather than in alphabetical.

Grid #3:

- Under item 1(b), added the words "on private lands" after long-term ground leases.
- Under item 2(b), changed "will" to "should" in the first sentence - "Parks Division should pursue...."
- Under item 4(c), replaced second sentence with, "An entity should be identified that can convene stakeholders as needed."
- Under Section titled "Additional Ongoing Issues," added the words "to garden groups" after "Grant writing assistance." Removed the question mark after Dane County/UW Extension.
- Under Section titled "Additional Ongoing Issues," added the following four issues:
 - o Assessment of ongoing need
 - o Monitoring
 - o Review
 - o Who oversees progress going forward?

Woulf offered to draft a letter to be sent to leaders of key organizations providing context for a list of key recommendations from Grid #3 and requesting their input. There was Committee consensus for the co-chairs to review the letter and determine an appropriate date to convene a meeting of the leaders. This meeting could take place as part of a regular Committee meeting or as a special meeting of the Committee.

41852

Sheboygan Gardens Update February 2016

Attachments: [Sheboygan Community Garden Application for Space in Rennebohm Park 2C](#)

Sheboygan Community Gardens has completed a gardens application for Option A in Rennebohm Park, which would accommodate about 20 percent of the previous garden population. Woulf explained a resolution for Option A would be introduced at the March 1 Common Council meeting. Because the proposal would require an amendment to the existing master lease held between the City of Madison and Community GroundWorks, the resolution will only need to be referred to the Board of Park Commissioners for their approval. Final Common Council approval could occur at the March 15 meeting.

Woulf went on to explain that a second resolution will likely be introduced requesting that City staff review the feasibility of several additional locations to create more community garden space in the neighborhood for 2017 and beyond. This resolution would likely be referred to our committee and the Madison Food Policy Council with final referral to the Board of Park Commissioners.

Fey reported that City staff has created a Legistar number (41789) to track the documents related to the Sheboygan Community Garden. Fey also noted that Sheboygan Community Gardens has secured a grant from Madison Community Foundation for \$5,000 to cover the cost of perimeter fencing, and has applied for grants from Home Depot and Fiskars. They are also receiving assistance in planning the Option A space from the University of Wisconsin Landscape Architecture Department, and are planning to offer workshops on intensive gardening in an urban environment.

REGULAR BUSINESS REPORTS

[41854](#)

Food Policy Council Update February 2016

Woulf shared that of the 14 SEED grant applications received, 2 were garden related. The Gardens Network announced at the 2016 Gardens Summit on February 20 that the New Garden Fund would be renamed to Gardens Network Micro-Grant program and be available to new and existing gardens. Guidelines are being developed, and more information will be made available in a couple months. Fey reported a work group of the Food Policy Council has convened to address the implementation of the approved Pollinator Protection Task Force report.

[41855](#)

Parks Update February 2016

Leopold shared the research she has done regarding the deed for Garner Park as it relates to not allowing a community garden in the park. The land for the park was purchased in 1965. Because 50 percent of the funds for the purchase were provided by the State Department of Natural Resources, the deed restricts uses of the park to activities described in the State Statutes in effect at the time, specifically section 66.36(3), defining park uses as sight-seeing, picnicking, hiking, nature study, swimming, boating, hunting, fishing and camping.

[41856](#)

CDBG Update February 2016

No update.

[41858](#)

Planning Update February 2016

No update.

[41861](#)

New Garden Fund February 2016

As stated under 41854, the New Garden Fund is being renamed to Gardens Network Micro-Grant program and will be available for new and existing gardens. Since the fund will be administered by the Gardens Network in the future, this agenda item will be removed from our agenda going forward.

[41862](#)

Gardens Network/Gardens Coalition Report February 2016

Lezberg reported that the 2016 Garden Summit on February 20th was well attended, with approximately 110 paid registrants. Unfortunately, it was difficult to see the video presentations because of the brightness of the room. A total of

37 evaluations were collected, indicating that the Garden Leader sessions were well received and the Hmong sessions generated lively discussion among participants. There were fewer Latino gardeners in attendance than anticipated. The Youth Garden track received positive comments but only six children participated. Attendees supported continuation of an annual Summit.

COMMUNICATIONS

Co-chairs received mailed copies of the Sheboygan Community Garden's application for space in Rennebohm Park.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a "Pints for a Purpose" fundraiser for Community GroundWorks at Ale Asylum on February 29, from 3 to 9 pm. For each pint of beer sold, \$1 will be donated to Community GroundWorks.

ADJOURNMENT

Leopold made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 pm. Nekola seconded the motion. Motion passed by a voice vote.