



Killingly Community Garden Committee

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, August 2nd, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Killingly Town Hall

172 Main Street, Killingly CT 06239

Room 102

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK, KILLINGLY, CT
2017 AUG -8 AM 10:11
Elizabeth M. Wilson

Minutes

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

- A. Welcome and Introductions-Meeting called to order by chair, Wayland Leonard, at 7:01pm, with John Colbridge, Jess Viens, Samantha Abbamonte, Brittany Evans, Jonathan Blake, Carrie Carter, Louise Lee, and Virginia Keith in attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. July 13th, 2017 Special Meeting-a motion was made by John Colbridge to accept the minutes. Seconded by Sam Abbamonte. Approved unanimously.

III. Citizens' Comments-None

IV. Ongoing Business

A. Elks Grant/Beacon Grant/Work Days-

1. Grant-Sam reported that the money for the grant will be spent in the next two weeks. She has developed a budget for the remaining funds. She suggested a major purchase (2/3 of the remainder) from one place to simplify documentation. Her suggestions included: a gas card for gas powered equipment, 30 walkway stones, a bench, weedwacker, wood to repair pergola, canvas cover for pergola to provide shade, loppers/trimmers, arbor for memorial garden, easy up tent for outreach events/workdays, gloves, bug spray, stools, sunscreen, paint, sealant for picnic tables, and a first aid kit. Wayland thinks there may be paint already in the shed, but a stain might be useful. He could also use some items for hanging the signs. Sam would like to create a shopping cart for the items ready for next week to provide to the Town Finance Department. Plants, signage, and nutrients may be purchased and then receipts submitted for reimbursement. There is \$2000.00 from the grant that must be spent. Jonathan needs to sign off on the list before sending to finance. Jess will help Sam create the list (shopping cart) so that it can be submitted to Jonathan early next week. Louise would like to submit her final report by 8/21/17. The goal is to have the information to her by 8/16/17. Louise is contacting a member of the Elks regarding the walkway and soil for the raised beds. Jess would like the beds filled before purchasing plants. Virginia has spoken with a designer for the memorial garden. She has given him dimensions and he is working on a design. Fall planting is possible so that there is time for designing the space. Jonathan suggested purchasing a larger, 300 gallon water tank that would be conducive to the existing irrigation system with soaker hoses. Another option is a combination compost and rain barrel. Wayland asked what will need to be changed with the current system. Jonathan said that timers could still be used and the barrels should be elevated to maintain pressure. Because the school is still being used, there are issues with the current system. When the greenhouse comes down, in the fall, there will be utilities available nearer to the garden. Virginia may have a contact with food grade tanks.

Pricing for the brochure was discussed. A purchase of 100 was determined to be best. The plant budget should be increased from \$500 to \$700-800.

2. Work Days-A successful work day was held on 7/22/17. Behind the fence was weeded and cleared. The vegetable garden was also weeded. On 7/30/17 the Elks, spread the wood chips and continued weeding/clearing along fence and walkways. Virginia suggested painting the fence to make it blend in more with the surroundings. The next work day is scheduled for Sunday, August 20th at 9:00am.

B. Fundraising- No update

C. KCG Website-Wayland sending log-in information to Jonathan.

D. Bylaws-Sam verified that the Treasurer duties will be updated to show that the Treasurer does not have possession of the funds. She also questioned Article 3 Section 5, Resignation. It doesn't seem clear how long the group needs to wait before voting on a new officer if one resigns. Sam suggested including a goal for monthly work days or meetings from April to October. Wayland questioned what happens if the group became a 501c3. Jonathan said that a meeting would be had with the Ag Commission, the garden group would dissolve, and the Ag Commission could vote to lease the garden property to the new group. It would then go to the Town Council. Jonathan will check with Ann-Marie regarding the issue. Non-profit status will be explored through the winter. Jonathan will make updates to the by-laws for the next meeting.

E. Education/Outreach-Carrie and Virginia met regarding classes. They discussed classes at the garden and at Virginia's farm to teach season extension and low tunnel gardening. September or early October would be a good time for this class. Carrie contacted someone regarding canning classes; a certified educator would also be needed. A canning seminar is held at Cornell that the group may be interested in. Carrie will continue to look into this. Virginia has contacted the high school to see if their location could be used for classes. She is waiting to hear back.

F. Other-Jonathan reported that the Town Manager is allowing Friends of Assisi to install raised beds for gardening on town land near their site. ~~KCG may be able to provide assistance for the project, should they require it.~~ Virginia reported that Tom Haliwell from Nature's Designs will assist with the design of the memorial garden. Carrie has been researching community garden manuals and has found some worksheets that may be helpful. She will bring more information to the next meeting. Wayland suggested writing tasks on the white board in the shed. Carrie will try to create a list of tasks and time required to complete them. A Workshop with the Agriculture Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, August 9th, 2017 at 7pm. A special meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 10th, 2017 at 7pm.

V. Next Regular Meeting – Wednesday, September 6th, 2017 at 7pm.

VI. Adjournment-at 8:15pm upon a motion by Sam Abbamonte, seconded by Carrie Carter. Approved unanimously.