

Oak Park Community Garden – General Meeting Minutes

Date: May 21, 2026

Location: May Boyer Meeting Room

Meeting Called to Order: 7:07 PM

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Bill and Diane C, B1&2, Jeff V G3, Madelyne G E3, Joann F C2,D1&2, Steve K H2,I2, Ravyn M C1, Alison B. G2 & 8, Bob Keiling E6, Lekshmi S. A2, Amanda M F3 & 5, Jeff H B5 &6

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

- Minutes from the April General Meeting were motioned for approval by Bob Keiling, seconded, and unanimously approved.

OFFICER REPORTS

Vice President: Lekshmi S

- Nothing pressing to report.

Secretary – Amanda M

- **Bindweed Program:** Program to be implemented; Amanda to monitor. Affected parcels identified: B2, C8, D7, and D8.

A new natural herbicide — Captain Jack Deadweed Brew — is being trialed and is available in the shed.

- Eradication will be a group effort.
- Mint remains an ongoing issue; it will be added to the bindweed program for management.

- **Compost Program:** Two compost bins have been reassigned and will be monitored by Amanda with a focus on sustainability.

Treasurer – Alison B

- Checking Account Balance: \$19,000.47
- Savings Account Balance: \$9,841.81

Open House Financial Summary:

Revenue Source	Amount	Notes
Alex's Lemonade Stand	\$100.00	\$64.00 cash + additional Zelle contributions; members voted unanimously to round up donation to \$100.00
Plants & Books	\$538.00	Cash
Raffle	\$178.00	Cash
Venmo / Zelle	\$370.00	
Total Profit	\$1,086.00	

- The open house saw repeat visitors; 75% of membership attended.
- Seven (7) parcel applications were submitted on the day of the event.
- Vendors were a notable success; positive feedback received on social media.
- Alison thanked all members — a great joint effort and a real sense of community.
- Alison noted that the WLV Garden Club she belongs to gives back to the community and suggested OPCG consider supporting a community cause next year.

COMMUNITY & PARTNERSHIPS

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- Beckie H. from Las Virgenes Water has expressed interest in working with OPCG. Topics of interest include parcel chat nights and field trips.
 - RSRPD conducted a safety check of the garden, Alison B requested the installation of a fire extinguisher. Snake wire was also discussed.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- Alison B. and Bob Keiling will collaborate to refine the tomato growing program. Pop-up sales continue to generate good profit.
- **Parcel Chat Nights:** Ravyn M. requested a chat night focused on soil health or crafts, and offered to lead a herb program in the future.
- Madelyne G. suggested inviting Master Gardeners to present on the topic of soil health.
- Various members offered suggestions on soil improvement strategies.
- School group visits are currently on hold; however, requests are being received from other groups, including adult groups.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- OPCG received a Supervisorial Award for Environmentalism. The award will be displayed on the shelf in the shed.
- The committee was recognized for their excellent work. Madelyne G. and Alison B. were commended for their participation in the video component of the award presentation.
- Bill C. expressed that it is a privilege to be part of the organization.

GARDEN MANAGER'S REPORT

- Jeff V. is actively working on sourcing wood chips for the garden

GARDEN UPDATES

New Members:

- Rick — Parcel A7
- Jennifer — Parcel A8

Vacant Parcels:

- E2 and F7 are currently vacant.

Planting Requirements:

- All parcels must be 75% planted from now through October. Board walk-throughs are conducted regularly to ensure compliance.

Water:

- Water pressure entering the garden is substantial; members are advised to be mindful of this when irrigating.
- The water bill is currently approximately \$300/month and is expected to increase through the summer months.
- A filtered drinking fountain is approved for installation, funded by the open house proceeds.

Tools & Equipment:

- Tools are available in the shed for member use.
- A seam fastener is missing; replacement cost is estimated at \$145.00. It was last seen during the build-out at parcel E4. Check if Vince has it.
- Per Jeff V, baseboards are needed for buildouts— an order will be placed.

Picnic Tables:

- The new picnic tables look great. Members discussed optimal placement locations within the garden.

Security Deposits:

- Diane C. confirmed that security deposits are balanced against the savings account. All accounts are in order.
- Steve K. reported being present during an assessment of the area outside the garden by Friends of Oak Park. Status: Pending.

CLOSING

- Thank-you cards to vendors from the open house are in progress.
- Meeting concluded 7.58pm
- **Respectfully submitted,**

Amanda Martin

Recording Secretary, 2026