

Oak Park Community Garden

General Meeting Minutes, March 19, 2026

Location: Mae Boyer Park

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **7:05 PM**.

2. Attendance

Present:

Bill & Diane Colangelo B1 & 2 Joann Fritzen D1 & 2,C2, Madelyne Green E3, Jeff Hoyt B6 & 7 Jeff V G3, Lekshmi Nair A2, Alison Batten G2 & 8, Bob Keiling E6, Chris Adib E8, Lesa Manzo B10,A9, Steve Kozel H2,I2

3. Approval of Previous Minutes (January 2026)

- Motion to approve: **Bill**
 - Seconded by: **Bob**
 - **All in favor - Minutes approved**
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4. Reports

4.1 President:

Three new members Candy C3, Karen A10, Ryan and Andy F4 please welcome them.

No wait list. 2 vacant parcels A8, F7

Keep up maintenance on parcels. No one but parcel owner may trim plant material that extends into pathway. Walk through inspection scheduled, violations may be issued.

4.2 Vice President

Protection of milkweed continues to support Monarch program. Please be aware areas of active growth marked in pathways by flags.

4.3 Secretary

Absent.

4.4 Treasurer

- Checking \$17648.29
- Savings \$9961.64
- **Donations** - Wildflower seed bombs donated by local company. We will use at the RSRPD Wellness Fair this weekend.
- Suggestions of local companies always welcome, especially smaller ones. Need to grow these relationships.
- \$300 of seeds West Coast seeds donated using for 2027 open house.
- School tours \$580
- The accounts are in the black, can afford select improvements with continued fund raising etc.

4.5 Garden Manager

- Thank you to Alison and Harbor Freight for gift cards. \$225 spent on pull cart, hoses etc.
 - Thank you Jeff V pergolas are finished - great job!
 - Alison and Jeff V installed sunshades on pergolas - really working well.
 - Workday on the 28th, few projects need to be done.
 - Feedback on Peach Tree Hill planting soil. Well received by membership. Cost was \$1900 Peach Tree donated the soil we paid shipping \$385. Organization of the dump was good. Can we develop a relationship and get more dumps?
 - Moving to Athens for compost, members felt it was better quality. Can we get 2 deliveries a year?
 - Suggested to still use Las Virgenes as a filler mainly as mulch layer.
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5. Old Business

5.1 Open House - May 16

Tables/vendors:

- Las Virgenes Water District
- Athens Waste
- Ace Hardware
- Natural pest control group
- Ventura County Resource Conservation District (seed bombs, butterflies)
- Friends Of Oak Park Open Space
- Local CSA food Box will be donating for raffle
- Can Peach Tree do a table with samples?

Additional notes:

- Ideas of raffle items contact Alison. We have Huntington tickets, Picnic Time has donated again.
- Volunteers still needed.
- Flyers available to hand out.

5.2 School tours

Great feed back, six classes so far this year 1st and 5th. 4th coming in April

Oakhills Elementary was hoping to have all grade levels come, we just can't handle that many yet.

Using \$100 of funds we make for snack supplies if necessary. Rest of dollars to general fund.

6. New Business

6.1 Water Fountain

Outdoor water filler/fountain. Adds to our amenities for membership and public. Information handed out on Global Industries bottle filler. Filler \$1699, option with water fountain \$1425. Freeze/frost resistant has filter. Need to check details of filter. Can we find a plumber to donate installation-needs grey water drain.

Granite surround keeps it cool, install need pergola.

Members present support idea of filler option.

Need to watch water bills before committing to purchase. June target date.

6.2 Wellness Festival

Saturday March 21 10 am at the Oak Park Community Centre. Members setting up a table give aways, book sale & tomato sales.

6.3 Installation of new Information Board

Requests for more printed material have been made.

New board to be installed on shed above the mailbox.

6.4 General Comments

Tomatomania dates discussed.

Seam fastener tool missing! Need to repurchase.

Lock the shed only on the top lock bracket.

Gold Spotted Oak Borer - UC extension office offering a class April 25. Information being distributed.

Nicole helping on letter and number installation on parcels. Thanks

Lesa reports leak in RSRPD irrigation on Kanan.

Steve K advises he will be doing some plumbing work and water will be off for a short time.

Discussion of shade cloth- needs to be clarified in the rules.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **8.00 PM**.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Martin

Recording Secretary, 2026