

St. George's Community Garden and Trail Committee

Meeting minutes for January 14, 2024, 6:30 – 8:00 pm

In attendance: Siobhan Cregg, Ernie Bennett, Cathy Stickland, Don Strickland, Mattie Bennett, Colin Pearson and Nancy Pearson

1) Meeting called to order at 6:30pm

2) Oct 29, 2024 meeting minutes adopted.

3) Review of 2024 Annual Report

- a) **2024: Sunset Trail Upgrade to Man O'War Brook.** This section was reviewed and accepted. The Kinsmen donated \$2000 following the last meeting and the bridge was completed over Man O'War Brook at a cost of \$2,215.33.
- b) **2024: Garden Green Space Improvements.** This section was reviewed and accepted.
- c) **2024: Community Garden Party.** This section was reviewed and accepted.
- d) **2024: Community Earth Day Cleanup.** This section was reviewed and accepted.
- e) **2024: Website.** This section was reviewed and accepted.
- f) **2024: Green Depot Account.** This section was reviewed and accepted.
- g) **Financials:** At year end there was \$739.53 in the bank account, \$301.85 in the Green Depot Account, \$1,000 committed to the Trailhead Sign, resulting in \$41.38 as an uncommitted balance. Transactions since the last meeting were the \$2,000 deposit from the Kinsmen donation and \$2,215.33 expense for the bridge materials.
- h) **2025: Committee Incorporation.** This section was discussed and accepted. An application has been submitted by Siobhan. The registration fee is \$70. This process will improve access to grant funding.
- i) **2025: Install a Trailhead Sign.** This section was discussed and accepted. The sign design draft has been completed and a Town permit granted for work. The draft will be circulated for one more review prior to construction. This will be completed in early spring.
- j) **2025: Sunset Trail to Barachois Brook.** This section was discussed and accepted. Expect to know the ActiveNL funding status early in year. Once this is known, requests for supplemental funding will be completed. A permit will be completed for the bridge installation. Several opportunities were identified.
- k) **2025: Highway & Community Signage.** This section was discussed and accepted. Sign design draft has been completed, and a permit has been

submitted to the Department of Transportation for approval. The draft sign design will be circulated for one more review prior to construction. The target is to complete the highway signs in early spring, prior to the start of Tourist season.

- l) **2025: Garden Green Space Improvements.** This section was discussed and accepted. Siobhan and Kristen will follow up with the school to work out details on design and construction of the garden storage shed by the high school Industrial Arts students.

Garden work events will be held in the spring to clean up the adjacent lot.

The committee discussed it does not have the capacity and volunteers to organize and hold a “Community Garden Party” as was done in 2024. Siobhan will reach out to other groups to see if any group who has more capacity is interested in putting on a “Community Garden Party” in 2025. If so, there is a need to review the stage roof and provide an outhouse facility. Mattie will investigate this.

- m) **2025: Community Earth Day Cleanup.** This item was discussed and accepted. Siobhan will reach out to other local groups to increase engagement. Expanding the culture of taking care of our environment is believed to be the most important aspect of cleaning up. The next committee meeting will be heavily focused on making this event as successful as possible. Nancy’s clean up events were also discussed and how we can work together to maximize the impact. There was also a discussion of World Clean Up Day on September 20, 2025.
- n) **2025: Website Expansion.** This item was discussed and accepted. Cathy provided cost estimates and a more robust websites cost ~\$260 per year so it was agreed that we would maintain the existing website and add more information to it. There will be two sections added for Annual Reports and meeting minutes. We could reconsider this in the future if our finances become more robust.
- o) **2025: Community Outreach.** This item was discussed and accepted. Siobhan will start reaching out to other groups to work together on various community building initiatives.

- 4) A Motion was passed to approve the 2024 Annual Report with provided edits.
- 5) The next meeting is scheduled for February 20th at 6:30pm. Location to be defined.
- 6) Meeting Adjourned at 8:00pm.