

**Saco Community Garden
Steering Committee Meeting
February 8, 2018, Saco Rec Center
Minutes**

Present: Peg Mills, Joel Hersom, Bruce Martel, Karen Martel, Walter Buczacz

Peg Mills called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Minutes of the January meeting were accepted with amendments. Motion by Bruce, second by Joel, passed unanimously.

Finances

Peg presented a spreadsheet with the proposed budget.

Highlights include:

The city had a \$700 discrepancy with our books.

Peg proposed that we carry forward \$3000 from last year.

Proposed rental income: \$1500, donations: \$500. Clynk \$100 = \$2100 total

Accessible plot proposed \$100

Shade porch: \$800

Excavating for new plots: unknown

Hospitality: Peg proposed dropping the Harvest Supper, but keep the Ice cream social

Overall Budget: Proposed income: \$5100/ Proposed expenses: \$5100

Discussion:

Suggested having a thank you ice cream social or farm-to-table dinner for neighbors

Fundraising suggestions: bottle drive, sell a calendar, harvest dinner ticket sales, raffle basket, silent auction, yard sale, Earth Day or spring event in conjunction with Main Street Saco.

Karen made a motion to recommend acceptance of the budget at the annual meeting, Joel second. Unanimously passed.

Other financial updates:

In January we received \$170 in rental fees. (\$530 in December), Total \$700.

CLYNK account is currently \$107.50

Gift certificate for Annual Meeting: \$25.00 Peg will be reimbursed by City.

As of this meeting, 21 plots are still available, but rentals had not been opened to public as of yet.

Old Business

Bylaws: Walter moved that we vote on the bylaws, Joel second.

Bruce suggested clarifications in wording for the bylaws. Joel amended the motion to accept the changes, Walter second. The motion carried.

Guidelines: Joel made a motion to pass the garden guidelines, Walter seconded. Bruce had several suggestions to clarify the guidelines. Motion passed to accept the guidelines as amended. A copy will be sent to Ryan Summer, and to each gardener. They will also be posted on the garden Facebook page.

City contacts: Joel noted that he no longer has access to update the Garden Facebook page, so we'll have to go through the City to make changes and updates. Rachael, an administrator at Saco Recreation is our contact for this. Peg has met with Ryan Summer and with Erica, who will update the Saco Rec page to open rentals to the general public.

Nominating Committee

The Proposed slate of officers for 2018-19:

Chair Bruce Martel

Vice Chair Joel Hersom

Recording Secretary Karen Martel

Communications Secretary Karen Martel

Treasurer Peg Mills

City Representative Ryan Summer

Member at Large Walter Buczacz

Member at Large Michelle Hiltz

Member at Large Rachel Bolduc

Member at Large Ron Bolduc

Member at Large—open, nominations may be taken at the March meeting

Karen will propose the slate of officers at the annual meeting.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on March 14, 2018, at 6:30. The agenda includes approving the annual budget and electing officers. Joel made arrangements with China House in a private room. He will send notification of the meeting to our current mailing list. We don't have an updated list of 2018 renters as of yet.

New plot planning. Peg distributed an updated plot plan with the new plots mapped out. Peg discussed the expansion with Ryan Summer and Ron Moody. She will follow through with contracting to excavate for the new plots. It needs to be measured to double-check that there is room for the new plots.

Accessible plot: Bruce will review documents about the plot for future planning.

Plot rental status: as stated above, 20 (plus the accessible plot) plots are still available, Erika is opening rentals to the public soon.

Other/New business:

Promotion of plot rentals: Peg sent a free ad to the Courier for two weeks. It will also be posted on the Facebook page. Joel will replenish pamphlets throughout town as needed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm

Annual meeting March 14, 2018 6:30 at China House on Main St., Saco

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Martel
Recording Secretary