Saco Community Garden Steering Committee Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2021, 6pm at 168 Simpson Rd.

**Minutes**

**Attending**: Peg Mills, Joel Hersom, Karen Martel, Bruce Martel, Harry Neilson and Walter Buczacz.

Joel moved, Bruce seconded to approved the **October minutes**. Passed.

Joel presented our **volunteer statistics**: 36 renters have completed, 5 renters have partially completed hours, and 14 renters have not yet volunteered.

**Our financials** reported by Joel:

Dec. 1, 2020 to Nov. 9, 2021:

Annual Income……….$2,002.50

Annual Expense……..…..688.38

Annual Balance………..1,412.00

Carry forward from City…626.00

Net Balance Clynk ………160.86

Harry painted some of the white trim on the shed before the weather got too cold. He took the **paint** supplies home to keep them from freezing over the winter.

Bruce acknowledged the **compost** needs more work. Material is currently overflowing into wheelbarrows and piles outside the bins. He will write up an email directing volunteers to work on specific tasks with the compost.

**Changes in the Bylaws**: ~~strikethrough~~ means deleted, red means new language

“Steering Committee

…~~up to five Members-At-Large~~ sufficient Members-At-Large to bring total membership to as high as ten.”

“Meeting, Voting and Quorum

…Five Steering Committee officers constitute a quorum when the committee consists of nine or ten officers. Four Steering Committee officers constitute a quorum when the committee consists of eight or fewer officers.”

Bruce moved, Harry seconded, changes passed.

**Changes in the Guidelines**:

“2. PLOT ASSIGNMENTS

…c) Plot registrations for returning gardeners in good standing (see section 14) ~~begins in early December~~ begin in January. New renters who are Saco residents may apply for a plot beginning in February. New non-residents may apply for a plot beginning in March. No new registrations are taken after May 31st.

Joel moved, Peg seconded, passed.

Harry fixed the faulty **faucet** after the water was shut off.

Peg met with Davis Martinec to locate the **grapevines**. They chose a strip in the grass along the east fence. Peg wondered if this would be problematic for SPR mowers. Harry suggested planting in the corner of the fence. Peg will consult with SPR and talk to Davis about not prepping the site this fall.

**CLOSING NOVEMBER 14 AT DUSK**. Officers reviewed tasks to complete for the season. We will put the key padlock on the back gate and use the combo padlocks for the shed and front gate.

Peg moved and Joel seconded to change the Guidelines to have the first Sunday in November be the **closing date**. Passed with one against. This will be for future years.

Karen explained that renters are not using their passwords and access to our **website** effectively. She suggested we not have a password-protected section of the SCG website and just leave everything public. Consensus supports this. As agreed at the last meeting, we will try to get out 2 printed newsletters next year.

The shade porch bamboo **shade** was damaged and removed. All in favor of skipping a shade for next year.

Officers briefly talked about **wish lists** for the garden (especially a mechanized compost shredder!). We will devote the January and February meetings to brainstorming for wish lists.

Consensus of present officers is to **change the meetings** to the second Wednesday of the month (except NO meeting in December), begin at 6:30pm and hold meetings at Saco Parks & Rec community center. Peg will contact SPR for room scheduling.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Mills, Chair & Sec.