

SCG 1/11/2017 Meeting Minutes

Attendance: P. Mills, J.Hersom, J. Hirsch, A. Concessi, P. Concessi, B. Martel, L. DeSimone

Peg Mills called the meeting to order at 6:15pm. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as presented on a motion by Joel Hersom, seconded by Joe Hirsch.

A Finance Report spreadsheet was presented by Joe Hirsch. Our ending balance for the month of December was \$3541 which includes an expenditure of \$59 for our water bill. This charge for water usage will be billed annually.

To date 17 garden plots have been rented. 5 are year-round and 12 are seasonal.

A discussion on Food Pantry Plots was tabled until the next meeting.

Peg handed out a schematic of the garden highlighting some proposed improvements to the Garden. She proposed that a shade awning be attached to the shed. This would consist of 4 posts with a roof over them equal in size to the shed with lattice work on one side. There is a gravel pad under the shed and it will be necessary to install one under the shade porch. At least one of the flower boxes would be removed and we could put flowers in hanging baskets. It was moved by L. DeSimone, seconded by J. Hersom to have Peg approach Biddeford Technical School and the Eagle Scouts to see if they have interest in giving us a quote. Motion approved. We need to come up with accurate dimensions and use similar materials and adhere to the style we have now. Peg will consult with Joe Hirsch prior to seeking a bid. There is room for a 4 X 8 'or a 4X 6 ' table, to be placed under the shade awning. It could be placed against the lattice work leaving 3 open work sides. The Boy Scouts have a fund raiser for which they are making picnic tables to order. Peg will check and see if the Scouts would be willing to make one for us and what the cost would be. We want a freestanding table without benches. We will purchase plastic stackable chairs. If we proceed with the proposed shade awning, it will be necessary to hire a contractor to move the fence back, being careful to leave at least a 6 foot swath, so that Parks & Rec has room to mow between the fence and the bamboo. It was moved by L. DeSimone and seconded by J. Hersom that bids should be solicited for this project. Motion approved.

Regarding changes to the Garden we may look at the concept of an adaptive garden plot.

At a previous meeting, we decided to have A Gardener of the Month. Steering Committee members will check out the Garden plots each month and select a recipient at the monthly meeting. It will be a volunteer task to make a marker and have it ready by May 1st

The garden plots will not be tilled this year and we will not do a soil test.

Another volunteer task ready to be done now is to gather all tools in the shed in need of sharpening and to communicate with Joe Hirsch as to what would be a good time to take them to him at Parks & Rec to be sharpened and then return the tools to the shed after they have been sharpened.

We need to make sure that all renters know that they may not store any of their personal garden items such as cages in the shed.

Next year we will have known volunteer tasks on a drop- down menu on the registration site.

The next SCG meeting will be on February 9th at 6pm. It will consist of a brief business meeting including planning for the Annual Meeting and will conclude with a seed starting workshop.

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth DeSimone