

## **Saco Community Steering Committee meeting minutes – 20-Apr-2023**

- 1) Attending: Nancy, Bertha, Maggie, Amanda, Walter, John, Peg, Bruce. Heather (recording secretary) had a last-minute scheduling conflict, so Bruce took notes.  
Meeting was held at the Saco Community Center. Started at about 6:30.
- 2) Minutes of February 17 meeting were reviewed and accepted without change (John moved to accept, Amanda seconded; approval was unanimous). The March meeting was the annual meeting to elect officers, held at Koi restaurant in Biddeford. Minutes of that meeting were not available for review.  
Took a few minutes to welcome Amanda and Maggie to the garden, and to their first meeting.
- 3) Discussion of planned opening activities and other general business
  - a) A service list (tasks to be accomplished before the garden opens, primarily) placed in the shed.
  - b) Saturday, April 23 (Earth Day) was agreed as the scheduled day to take care of pre-opening tasks, including pathway repair – staple the fabric covering the pathways where it is loose, replace fabric where needed – and others as described on the list.
  - c) Orientation for new gardeners and others who may be interested was scheduled for April 29, 10:00.
  - d) There was general discussion of opening activities – shed, compost, etc.
  - e) There was also discussion of a seed-sharing program. The girl scouts had contacted the garden last year about a seed-sharing station as a community service project, but efforts to contact them this year have not been successful so far.
- 4) Mentor program for experienced gardeners to provide suggestions and advice to newer gardeners. Heather had volunteered to organize the program, but in her absence there was only general agreement about the potential worth of the program, but no details
- 5) Projects and plans for this year
  - a) Shed doors are rotting at the bottom. Bruce said repair is not practical given the design of the doors, so replacement is needed. Bruce and another volunteer (Harry?) can build the new doors. No details yet.
  - b) More service days – group effort to accomplish certain tasks – were discussed. John offered to run one on May 6 (May 7 rain date).
  - c) A better system of storage for sifted compost was discussed. Bruce said an area covered with bricks or paving stones, similar to what is in place now but larger, would work. There was general agreement, but no specific plan.
- 6) Questions and ideas
  - a) There was general discussion about instructional videos. Gardeners should be reminded about the ones already on the web site, and there is potential for new ones.
- 7) Next meeting set for May 18, 6:30 at the Community Center. Meeting adjourned 7:40.  
Minutes submitted for the consideration of the Steering Committee by Bruce Martel, temporary acting provisional Recording Secretary.