

Saco Community Garden  
Steering Committee Meeting Agenda  
Community Center, Room 203  
August 14, 2019

Attended: Bruce, Walter, Peg, Michelle, Laurie, Karen

Bruce called the meeting to order at 6:38

Peg made a movement to accept the minutes of the last meeting. Laurie seconded, unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's report-** Peg has paid the balance to Moody's for the new plots and has been reimbursed by the Parks and Rec.

Clynk account- 87.04

**Volunteer report-** As of the beginning of August, 12 people have completed their volunteer hours, 11 people have done partial hours, and 26 people have not completed any hours. 4 of the 26 people have given up their plots and will not be completing hours.

**Building repair projects-**

The support for one of the water spigots still needs to be replaced. Greg from plot #37 has offered to help Bruce with this project.

The front gate is in need of some repair. It is currently functional but will need some attention by the end of this gardening season. Bruce will work on identifying the specifics of what needs to be done.

**Completed projects-**

The porch screen is up and the shade porch project is complete

The new plots are done and they have been given to current gardeners as additional garden space to use for the remainder of the season. We will need to cover the paths with landscaping fabric. Peg made a movement to purchase more landscaping fabric.

**Gardener of the Month-** Cynthia from plot number #37 is the gardener of the month for August.

There is a vacancy on the Steering Committee. Peg will contact a gardener about filling this position

**Compost Bins-** Bins 1-3 are now in good shape. There were yellow jackets nesting in bin 1 but they have now been taken care of. Bin 4 needs to be sifted. The bins needs to be relabeled to be more visible.

**New Plots-** These plots which are currently being gardened as additional spaces will be rented out next year on a first come, first serve basis. Those using these gardens for the remainder of this season will not have priority next year and will need to go through the normal channels if they would like the plot in the next growing season.

**Groundhogs-** There is a groundhog currently living under the shed. Ryan Sommor from the Parks and Rec Department has said that he will contact the animal control officer but there has not been any action yet. We are currently using bricks to block the holes. Walter has agreed to pursue avenues for ridding the garden of the groundhog.

**Free for the taking-** 10' boards from the border of plot #25 were removed at the start of the season and are available to take. They are currently located under the shade porch

**Plot #7-** Gardening will need to be done in the raised beds in the next gardening season. New soil will need to be added back into the beds for next year to replace the soil that has been removed. Add landscaping fabric

### **Should we handle garden and registration payments through the Saco Community Garden website going forward?**

Currently we're spending (per year)

\$21 for the domain

\$180 for the website

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\$201 total

If we have our own online registration system, it would be:

\$21 for domain

\$360 for website

estimated \$70 in Paypal fees

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\$451 total

If we rent space on a server and re-do our website:

\$21 for domain

\$120 server space (Maine Hosting Solutions)

\$70 Paypal fees (est.)

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\$211 total

The downside of the last approach is that it's labor-intensive and requires a webmaster with HTML knowledge or software.

**The next Steering Committee meeting will be September 11 at 6:30pm.**