

SCG Steering Committee Meeting
January 18, 2024
Saco Community Center

Chair Peg Mills called the meeting to order at 6:32

Present: Peg Mills, Joel Hersom, Karen Martel, Walter Buczac, Bruce Martel, John Saulle, Linda Edgerton
Absent: Alex MacPhail, Amanda Mondor

The minutes of the October and November meetings were approved.

Registration: Karen reported that according to the Saco Rec site, one year-round plot out of 15, and 22 seasonal plots out of 40 are still available. Blog posts have been sent to last year's gardeners in good standing to remind them to register to keep their plot.

Finances: Joel reported that as of 1/4/24 we have \$3906 on hand in our city account, with several outstanding bills to be paid. We also have about \$300 in checking, and the CLYNK balance is \$65.71.

Soil Test: Peg reported that the garden needs nutrients. The PH is 7.3, and the soil is short on Potassium. It is suggested that we add fertilizer and sulfur. Soil amendments will be added in the spring. We have about 5500 square feet to cover, and will keep the walkway fabric in place. In two years, when we test again, the garden will be roto-tilled and new fabric walkways put down.

Two-year budget: Peg presented the budget which she created. Bruce made a motion and Karen seconded that we pass the budget as presented. After discussion about each item, the motion passed 7-0.

Nominations Committee: Peg said that she will find a non-officer to work with her to find candidates.

Joel suggested that we develop an incentive prize to gardeners who are in good standing (service work completed and garden cleared) when the garden closes. He suggested a drawing of eligible gardeners for a \$100 cash prize at the annual meeting in March. The hope is that this will increase compliance with the service hour requirement.

After much discussion, Joel made a motion: All gardeners in good standing on the last day of the garden season will have their name entered in a drawing for \$100. The drawing will be held at the November Steering Committee meeting. All renters are encouraged to come to the meeting, but are not required to attend to win. Peg seconded the motion. Passed by 6 ayes with one abstention.

After the motion passed, Peg suggested that we have a Harvest potluck supper at the November meeting, along with the drawing.

Other news & suggestions: Karen said that Lin Zhou had distributed our posters and flyers throughout the area, and kept 10 to put in the pamphlet box outside the garden.

It was suggested that we have coffee and donuts on the garden opening day.

Next meeting will be on February 15th at 6:30 pm at the Community Center.

Submitted by Karen Martel, temporary Recording Secretary