Prospect Heights Community Farm June Meeting Minutes Sunday July 15, 2012 11:05 pm- 12:00 pm

Attendees

Noah McLaurieLindsay HaddixTed De BarbieriSuzanna FoleyVanessa Chakour**Jennifer RichmanMartha ElliotAbbie Hurewutz**Jennie Spector

Elya Tagar ** Liz Neves Traci Nottingham (took notes)

Katherine Haner**Lynn ArmentroutVal DouglasShoshana Goldhaber**Ruth ManningLisa WatkinsSimona Rubin **Joey DeLeoMarva SealyBrian L. ThompsonKayla SchwarzGrace Nam

Jon Pope (presiding)Cookie ThompsonJessica Stein- PatrickMr. Jeff SecorJames GoldsteinJon Crow (visiting)

Melissa Atwood Ben Hor ner**

Ayelet Haran** Mara Gittleman **= new members

Announcements and Updates:

After our usual round robin of introductions, Jon welcomed the many new members and reminded us all that we need to keep the Garden open to the public for 20 per week and that we all must help meet this commitment. Ideas to interact with the community are also welcome.

June 2012 Meeting Minutes - ratification 11aye, 0 nay 0 abstentions

Treasury report: Brian- As of June 30 we have \$4227.21 which includes \$160 collected in dues, \$530 proceeds from the annual Plant Sale and \$55.20 for expenses in June. Brian reminded everyone that if you are going to make purchases for the garden as we are sponsored by a non-profit (OSI) we can make purchases tax free. See Brian or Johanna for further info. We have spent approx. \$1000 on the compost bins rebuild and the Treasures are working with the Park Slope Food CoOp to get reimbursed for our expenses.

Service Hours report: Brian- Brian reported that we have done very well in fulfilling the slots this past June; 85 hours were done by 26 people. Only 10 shifts were missed and those were usually Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Brian passed around a print of individuals' Open/ Service Hours Report for review; hours can be found posted in the bulletin board and on our website. July and August Open Hours sign in sheets were passed around during the meeting for folks to sign up.

Farming Concrete: Mara- Farming Concrete is in its 3rd year and it tallies how much produce - and its dollar value- is grown in community gardens around the city. So far 50 gardens around the city have signed up to be a part of the produce counts. Mara has brought a scale that also has a ruler incorporated for us to use to weight our produce. (Note: the scale is hanging on the upper left corner on the back of the bulletin board.) See Mara if you wish to participate in weighing your crops or mapping the crops of gardens.

Announcements: Jon P.- We hosted out first wedding in the garden on July 13th; Neil came and opened the garden for the them. Peter and Oliver from Dean street got married. Neil is also still working on the phyto- remediation efforts the presented last meeting. Jason is continuing his efforts on getting bike racks... more to come on both next month.

Box Report: Ruth- more members have been added to the waiting list.

Master Gardener Report: Traci- As soon as Will gets back from vacation, we will have a Garden Weed Guide on our website so that members know what's a weed and what's not. Besides weeding, for those looking for something specific to do during their Open Hours shifts, one thing that could be din is picking up plums that have fallen to the ground. This will help deter rats too. We also have a new prints of the "How to Join the Garden" Information slips (thanks Lisa W.!). Please share these with visitor who wish to become embers. It lists everything that is required to join the garden. The slips can be found in the little stake box in front of the bulletin board.

Keys and garden security: Jon P. - We need to ensure that the garden is accessible (by key) to members. Eventually we will need to do something about changing our keys/ lock. We have a lot of keys floating out there despite asking for them back when members

leave the garden. Recently Brian reported finding a guy in the garden hanging out by the shed kicking back with a couple of beers. Brain asked and it seemed that the person had gotten the key from a friend of a friend of a member who had been a member a few years ago.

Land Trust Rep (BANG-LT): Jon Crow & Kayla S. - Jon C. explained the origins of BANG and named the 5 member gardens and further added that BANG will not have formal offices nor a paid staff. Jon envisions BANG LT like a co-op in that we are autonomous, e.g. takes care of our own trees and other expenses, but that BANG LT would hold our deed and pay our taxes and insurance. BANG LT meets monthly and TPL has recently begun attending BANG LT meetings. The next BANG LT meeting is on July 19 at Healthy Nibbles on Flatbush Ave. and Prospect Place.

Jon then presented the BANGLT Partnership Agreement which is an agreement between member gardens and the land trust. Copies were passed around for review during the meeting and it will also be posted to the listserve for member review. We should respond with any comments we have by August 1st so that the pro-bono lawyers may proceed with finalizing the documents.

Q and A: If BANG LT falls apart and disbands what happens to our deed? the PHCF deed could be offered back to the city (as part of Parks Dept.), become a part of another Land Trust, or we could form our won non-profit to take the deed.

What's the difference between a Land Trust and Parks Dept. ? Giuliani!! and mayors like him.. We can never tell what the position and policies of a future administration will be. Another Mayor might wish to sell off community gardens like Giuliani did.

BANG LT's website:

www.banglandtrust.wordpress.com

Kayla gave thanks to the mystery person(s) who have been filing the barrels in the garden. Joey and Cookie 'fessed up to the good deed and were rewarded with a round of applause and many thanks. Lynn added that there are mosquito dunks in the shed for the water barrels to keep mosquito larvae from developing in the barrels.

We were all delighted by a cardinal who zipped through our meeting!

Next Meeting: Wednesday August 15 th, 2012 6:45 p.m. raindate TBD.

minutes taken & typed by Traci Nottingham, Secretary