Prospect Heights Community Farm April 10, 2010 Minutes

General membership assembled 1:10 pm-3:20 at picnic table

In attendance:

Jon Pope (presiding) Jessica Stein - Patrick Catherine Orrok Kayla Schwarz Johanna Bauman Silke Torras Maria Stasavage Lynn Armentrout Lisa Watkins Traci Nottingham (took notes) Philip Silva Sharon Calandra** Jeff Secor Meryl Branch-Mctiernan James Goldstein Joey DeLeo Kathleen Lopez-Kim Virginia Webster Jen Macartney** Angelin Borsics ** Akosua Albriton Christine Clisset** (sp?) R. Nottingham Laurie Kilpatrick Frances Norwood David Meller** Cookie Thompson Akiko Kato Alex Haves** Carl Lawrence

Akiko Kato

Zoe Calman**

Laura Sanchez- Laracuente**

Neal Kronley**

Lindsay Haddix**

Alex Hayes**

Mara Gittleman**

Elly Perkins

Danielle Sucher**

Anna Rose Hart**

Yuki Kitada Marcy J. Gordon Jean Kahler Ruth A. Manning

1) Opening welcome and remarks

- -We are part of Greenthumb and Trust for Public Land. We must have the garden open to the community at least 20 hours per week.
- -Please remember to clearly sign the open hours sheet with full name. Also, attendance sheet will only circulate during the opening portion of the meeting.
- 2) Announcements
 - -Leaves need to be shredded
 - -Plant sale is coming soon
- 3) Call for special election of position co-Master Gardener: Candidate V. Webster
 - -Pros: Virginia is always at the garden and contributes an exceptional amount of work and knowledge to the garden.
 - -Cons: People will serve the garden as they choose anyway; standard voting period has passed.
 - -Motion to allow vote 25 aye, 2 nay, 2 abstention = Passed
 - -Vote for V. Webster to be a co-Master Gardener 25 aye, 2 nay, 2 abstention = Passed. Virginia Webster is re-instated to her previous position of co-Master Gardener along with Traci Nottingham and Catherine Orrok
- 4) Ratification of November 2009 minutes
 - -Vote to allow ratification 25 ave , 0 nay, 3 abstention
 - -Vote to ratify 24 aye, 1 nay, 3 abstentions = ratified

** -new members

4b) Other scheduling and membership requirements

- -Open hours remain 4-6 Tuesday, Wednesday; 5-7 Thursday, Friday; 12-6 Saturday,
- Sunday. To be reviewed in October for consideration of seasonal solar changes.
- -Seniors sixty-five(65) years and older are exempt from fulfilling service hours.
- -Sugestions were offered that working in the garden during unofficial Open Hours should count towards required Service Hours also. Concerns were expressed that official Open Hours will not be covered by garden members. Members were also reminded that time spent on projects led by Coordinators and projects voted in as such do count towards Service Hours already. Carl and Marcy will present a proposal at the next meeting.

5) Drip Irrigation System review

- -Cons: It's a trip hazard and does not promote people coming to water their box. Members have success without using it. V. Webster says it takes 12 hours to run.
- -Pros: J. Goldstein says we never finished the installation.
- -Decision: Dismantle and store until end of season. Unless we re-use it here, it will be donated or put on CraigsList by November.
- 28 aye, 0 nay, 1 abstention = Passed

6) Communal Strawberry and Children's Dig Boxes

- -Move kids' box off the aisle
- -Meeting of Master Gardeners to determine berry box placement, with member contribution : 22 aye, 2 nay, 3 abstenstions

7) Fiscal Sponsorship- Johanna

-Next deadline to apply to Open Space Institute is June but we can wait until the August application deadline and discuss at next meeting.

8) Compost Update – James G.

- -We are working on the rat situation; most bins have hardware cloth & the finishing areas will soon.
- -Compost smells because of all the extra rain & snow. Please be sure to use ample browns when adding material to prevent flies.
- -Collected Leaves will be shredded soon.

9) Master Gardener Update- Traci N.

-311 was called and Parks Dept. picked up brush & prunings, excess mulch by the front gate was moved to neighborhood tree pits. Thanks to all the helpers!

10) Box Update- Ruth

-List offered for current box holding members to move to a sunnier box. Members on the waiting List who do not satisfy hour requirements will be dropped to bottom of the Box Waiting list.

11) Treasury Report- Johanna

-Started with \$1799.48, now have \$1200.58. \$384.18 went to plants, \$300 went to soil, \$289.72 went to rat-proofing the compost bins.