

In attendance:

Lisa Watkins (presiding)

Jacob Jans**

Mark Larrimore**

Liz Neves**

Jake Sherman

Catherine Orrok

Virginia Webster

Valentine Douglas

Christine Abelman**

Marcy J. Gordon

Andrea Warmington**

Abbey Klotz**

Sarah Wilhelm**

Jennifer Richman

Will Law

Akosua Albritton

Frances Norwood

Karen Fein**

Silke Torras

Dawn Sticklor **

Melissa Atwood**

Samson Smith**

Traci Nottingham (took notes)

Yuki Kitada

James Goldstein

Akiko Kato

Carl Lawrence

Jennifer Yoder**

Maria Stasavage

Eva Wang

** -new members

Announcements:

We are a GreenThumb & Trust for Public Land Garden and are required to keep the garden open a minimum of 20 hours per week. Be sure to sign up for Open Hours shifts!

New wood is here for those who need their box re-built;

We are hosting a GreenThumb Workshop on Street Tree Care on Saturday June 12, 2010. Activities will include a game show "Know Your Street Trees" and lunch will be served. Virginia offered that a garden neighbor, Nicole, could cater, but not vote was taken.

Please be sure that children only dig in the Kid's Dig Box and aren't creating masterpieces in other people's boxes;

We have been entered in the Greenest Block in Brooklyn Contest- we won 2nd Place last year;

P.S. 9 Kindergarteners will be coming May 25th for a garden tour and learn about worm composting;

Jon Pope will be taking care of the water hydrant permit for this year;

Ratify April's minutes- postponed till next meeting.

Updates & Reports

Treasury Report : Lisa on behalf of Phil & Johanna -approx. \$1300 currently in the treasury; this does not include Plant Sale proceeds.

Box Report - no report, Box Coordinator absent.

Compost Update: James G.- volunteers are needed to help turn & tend the compost bins; see James G. if you wish to participate. Participation in compost activities will count as Service Hours.

Master Gardeners' update : Catherine- several plants suffered major snow damage this past winter including the junipers on either side of the main aisle. One juniper had to be removed , the other will be pruned back. Traci- the Communal Strawberry Box has been installed, it is in the back of the garden near the shed & dogwood tree.

Discussion ensued regarding what to do with the empty space left by the removed juniper. Suggestions included having a grape arbor, a communal flower cutting bed or another evergreen to serve as a screen. Proposals will be further discussed and voted on next meeting.

Open Hours / Service Hours Update : Akiko- Will (co- communication coordinator) has created the Google Document - Service Hours Log for members review. Details are still being worked out but it will soon be available. Akiko requests that if you cannot make your Open Hours slot, please send an email to the listserve so that someone can take over or swap.

Projects & General Discussions:

If you would like an idea to be considered by the Membership, have a proposal ready for discussion at a meeting and you can also email suggestions to the listserve.

Open Hours Proposal: Carl points out that the garden should be open to visitors as much as possible and therefore proposes anytime one has the gate open with the Welcome sign out that should count as Service Hours, too. Various questions were asked "How would we track it? By the Honor system? Do we break out Service Hours vs. Open Hours?" Catherine noted scheduled Open Hours should always be covered (which has been difficult sometimes in the past), but agreed additional time should count too. It was suggested that we would need two categories of hours, "Open Hours" and "Public Access Hours". For now this will be referred to the Governing Board.

Greenhouse: Virginia proposes that we get a green house from GreenThumb. Many people are gardening year round, it would be good for starting early plants and would be good for the possible upcoming worm bin compost to keep them from freezing. The greenhouse would be hoop shaped (like a "D") about 10 feet long perhaps. If we do this a location would have to be determined. GT has put one in Hattie Carthan Community Garden . More information -dimensions, materials , cost, etc.- will be presented later.

Garden Tidiness: it was noted that the Fall Leaf Collection leaves in the giant plastic garbage bags are an eyesore in the garden for gardeners and visitors alike. It was explained that the leaves otherwise would have gone to the landfill -not composted by the City, and that we have had trouble getting a shredder to cut them. Hopefully leaf- shredding will happen soon.

Pruning : Akosua suggested that as we are raising funds that we consider using some of the money for overall tree pruning. Several trees are casting shade affecting alot of boxes; James G. agreed with pruning noting some branches are very low & hit people in the head as they are trying to do work and bring materials in the garden.

Next Meeting: June 5, 2010 11:00 a.m. Rain date June 6, 2010 11:00 a.m.

Communal Workday- Summer Pruning- June 26, 2010 10:00 am

minutes taken & typed by Traci Nottingham, Secretary