

Attendees

Virginia Webster

Lynn Armentrout

Jon Pope (presiding)

Traci Nottingham (took notes)

Elly Perkins

Cait Kilpatrick

Laurie Kilpatrick

Brian L. Thompson

Frances Norwood

Ruth Manning

Joey DeLeo

Jeff Secor

Redelia Nottingham

Rosemary Palms

Johanna Bauman

Lisa Watkins

Liz Neves

Akosua Albriton

Jennie Spector

Geoffrey Amend

Mitza Wagoner (BANG)

Sarah Morrison & Owen **

**= new members

Announcements and Updates:

September Meeting 2011 minutes ratified - Aye nearly unanimous, 2 abstentions

Today's Events: Jon announced that BANG LT will be having their Bike Tour visiting the 5 BANG LT gardens, starting here at noon and ending at 6/15 Greenspace with a barbecue/ potluck.

Compost: is available in the metal brown bin tin the metal tub.

Back of Garden: First stage is complete- removing the mulberry stump.

General garden Cleanup: Last meeting, Joey asked if we could get rid of the huge logs that were left after the mulberry was cut down ; Virginia noted that she put the info on Craigslist but has not received any responses yet. For the trash, Joey researched and found out that we could put out six pieces at a time for regular street garbage pick-up. Traci suggested we get a scrap metal hauler to take away the rusty chicken wire- type fencing. As for the concrete block and other pieces of useful materials Jon P. said he would investigate Build It Green and Materials for the Arts to see if they can take the materials. Or we could get a small dumpster or Jon could take it over by work & get a special trash pickup from the refuse hauler.

We decided to have a **Communal Workday on sat. Oct 29th from 11 am to 2pm.** in order to clean up.

Treasury Report: Johanna- Our current balance is \$4190.89 plus \$300 petty cash totaling 4490.89. September member contributions (dues) were \$75 and \$55 was spent on compost sifter materials and the soil tests from this summer. Johanna has not yet reimbursed herself for the Land trust voting mailings- approx \$70. Approximately 12 people have used the Pay Pal method of paying dues (see Brian T. for any questions). We have 70 active members in the member directory and we are still collecting annual dues. Brian noted that he has been scanning the receipts and saving them on Google Docs (shared between the Treasurers) for future accounting / tracking purposes.

Service Hours report: Brian- The October Open Hours Sign-in sheet and Service Hours Report as of 10/21 is being passed around (during the meeting). October is looking pretty empty so please sign up! About half of the members have done the required hours they were supposed to; the other half has not. Open Hours cease at the end of October; Wintertime Compost Service Hours and scheduling will go through the Compost Committee. Jon has been in contact with the folks who run Mulchfest (Christmas tree collection) and they have assured Jon that they really will have a tree chipper here to grind the trees.

General Discussions:

With regard to the weakly covered Open Hours, Lynn suggested that projects / activities (like the Compost Operations) be done during the posted Open Hours, that way the garden will be open when we are supposed to so that the general public can visit. She also noted that new members join but we don't ever see them again and feels that they don't have direction & are not necessarily engaged by the garden and proposed that those who are knowledgeable about what things need to be done in the garden could take leadership in arranging projects during Open Hours. New members may not feel that they can work on something alone. Jon apologized that he has not been in the garden that much those year because of work but wondered if there couldn't be a list of things to do during open hours. From this Johanna suggested that we could have several groups to engage all members, like a Water group, a Weeding group, to give structure to the garden's activities. Questions about service hours vs. Open hours.- Jon explained that Open hours and Service hours count as part of your garden commitments. Service projects directed by Project Leaders report your hours to Brian & Eva (service hrs coordinators) to keep track. Jeff suggested we have a To Do list in the bulletin board & a list of running projects on the

website too. Jon asks that people send him an email or speak to him after the meeting with project suggestions & he will send out the list. Redelia questioned the idea of teams as a way of getting new members feeling invested in the Garden saying if people join one team they will only know one thing & nothing else. Ruth agreed & suggested the teams rotate- especially water- so that the work doesn't fall on the same people all season long. Elly offered to write "how- to's" so people will know how to do the various tasks around the garden. Jeff S. worried that teams might not be the solution- things could get left undone waiting for the team to do the task. (if someone comes to do Open Hours who sees the barrels are empty but waits for the "water team" to fill up, we could be without water). Jon agreed with everyone! He also felt that there should be some structure because for instance the Water team could also take care of emptying the water tanks & winterizing the Water Harvesting System, make sure the hose protector is gotten so that hose will last etc., but also believes that water barrels should be filled whether the Water team is there or not. Akosua agreed with Redelia & Jeff that it is important that all members know how to weed & fill water barrels and appreciated that Elly volunteered to write up the How-To's but questions if one is not a part of the team whether people will be fully engaged & truly committed to the garden teams. Johanna felt that the system does not have to be rigid, but that there would be a group that would ensure a task is done. It would not prevent anyone from doing a garden task, however.

In the end we agreed & proposed to have work teams : one for Water (turn on/ off Water Harvesting System hose protector, barrels, etc) Weeding and Snow Removal (shovel the sidewalk & ensure we have salt & snow shovels). Vote: 16 Aye, 1 Nay, 1 abstention. Elected to lead these teams are Virginia for Weeding, Jeff Secor for Water and Jon P. for Snow Removal.

Upcoming Events: the post-Halloween **13th Annual Pumpkin Smash Potato Bake Bash** date will be November 5th , from 1-4 pm., raindate Nov. 6. Joey passed word that Kayla would not be able to get the potatoes from the co-op this year due to family obligations. Ruth volunteered to get them. Johanna also noted that we still have the \$25 Pathmark voucher that can be used too.

Next Saturday Oct. 29 **Garden Workday & Cleanup** (raindate 10/30) at 11 a.m. led by Master Gardeners & Jon P.

Next Meeting and Final Garden Closeout/ Cleanup : Saturday November 12th, 2011 11:00 a.m. raindate 11/13/11 11a.m. (final meeting of the season!)

minutes taken & typed by Traci Nottingham, Secretary