

Attendees

Traci Nottingham (took notes)	Jen Morello**	Eva Wang
Sharone Bunim**	Elly Perkins	Jessica Stein
Virginia Webster	Valentine Douglas	Neil Richardson
Jean Kahler	Lisa Watkins	Cookie Thompson
Silke Torras	Frances Norwood	Andrea Warmington
Akosua Albritton	Liz Neves	Roxanne Khamisi
Ruth Manning	Johanna Bauman	Redelia Nottingham
Lindsay Haddix	Brian L. Thompson	
Will Law	Ted De Barbieri**	**= new members
Sean Morello**	Jon Pope (presiding)	

Announcements and Updates:

After our usual round robin of introductions, Jon 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.

May 2012 Meeting Minutes - not issued; no ratification

Treasury report: Johanna- We have \$3592.00 which includes \$1042 collected in dues and \$115 for debris removal and \$115 for pest control as expenses in May. There are 69 paid up members and 20 from last year who have not yet paid dues. Those members will be contacted and will be asked for their key back if they are not returning as members.

Service Hours report: Eva- Eva reported that we covered 70% of May Open Hours slots and has the Open/ Service Hours Report printed for review; hours can be found posted in the bulletin board and on our website. We had 11 undone slots and 5 partially done slots. If you come to the garden during a shift and the garden is not open, please volunteer to keep the garden open! Garden signage- Angelica posted new fence signs for Garden Open Hours and Next Garden Meeting.

Box Report: Ruth- 20 members are currently on the waiting list.

Master Gardener report: Virginia - In July the Master Gardeners will run a Weed ID workshop. Mara is running the Farming Concrete produce tally for its last year. Sign up with Mara and let your produce count!

Traci- The "Ask A Master Gardener" event on June 1 arranged by Mara & NYCCGC and run by Traci & Mara was a success and had a good turnout. Kayla needs help w/ pruning her rose bush; see Traci if anyone wants to take that on today. Please everyone don't let your crops go to waste; Let people know if you are going to be out of town. Box holders are responsible for cleaning the weeds around their boxes.

Land Trust Rep (BANG-LT): Jon P. on behalf of Kayla - On May 29th, BANG met with their pro- bono lawyer to review the transfer of the gardens; TPL who was invited did not attend. TPL however has since received word from the main office that they could transfer the remaining deeds it holds to BANG-LT. Jon Crow has requested of BANG gardens to have Movie Night with each garden taking a turn hosting. We have done this in the past on our own but many plants have grown much taller and block our previous projection layout. Discussions ensued about which wall to project on to, where the projection tower would be, rats, etc. Do we want to do this if we can get the logistics worked out? 20 aye 0 nay 2 abstentions
BANG has applied to the IRS for 501c3 status (non-profit).

Compost Update: Liz- The Compost bin system was shut down last month due to rats breaching the bins. The plan is to rebuild them over two weekends- July 7& 8 and July 14 &15 and the final design is still in flux. Both James G. and Jon P. have submitted bin designs. Pea gravel will probably be used as a base for the bins. Fifteen members came to the Compost design meeting on June 4th to discuss thoughts. It was decided the bins would pretty much stay where they are, just a little more away from the fence to permit inspection on the backside of the bins. There are plans for working bins and storage for leaves and other browns. There has been a lot of interest and the Compost Team is expecting financial aid from the Park Slope Food Co-Op and input from the Compost Project (an arm of the Dept of Sanitation which trains Master Composters in a 30 hour program). Help is needed for disassembling the existing

system and debris removal from the garden will be handled later. The brick and cobble stones we have will be used for paving in front of the new system.

Discussions:

Open Hours - Cookie wanted to know what happens if rain during your Open Hours shift? Jon replied to make up the shift at another time (like a rained out baseball game). Akousa wanted to know about if it's too cold (i.e. low temps in the 50's, in the early spring)? Same thing, cross your name off and make it up another time. Also, if you know ahead of time that you aren't going to be able to do your shift, send a note to the listserve so that someone else has a chance to fill in.

Rat Abatement-Jon said he has not seen as much activity in his backyard, but we still need to make sure that we leave no food in the garden to feed the rats and that we need to clean up and re-stack our lumber piles.

Soil Remediation- Neil R. has researched lead contamination remediation methods, investigating phyto-remediation which could work for our garden. The process consists of planting plants that take up lead readily and then discard them as hazardous waste. This would be implemented over 2-3 growing seasons to lower lead levels in the soil. Neil passed around a printout of the information he has found and will post it in our bulletin board and on the list serve. Jon suggested that Neil collect a committee and bring a proposal to the next meeting for comment & vote. (unanimous vote)

Getting the word out - Jean noted that we have a Facebook page, and is administrator with Johanna, but it is not well maintained with the garden's events. If there is an event posted on our website calendar, please let Jean K. know also so she can post it there. Will added that he gave permission to the Governing Body to make adds to the Google calendar which updates our website front page & web calendar with events. Jean agreed to upkeep the Facebook calendar.

Val requested that the plum tree be pruned back to get the boxes beneath better sunlight. Jon agreed that we should get to it soon.

REMINDER- Jon- as per our bylaws, meeting attendance is only counted if you attend more than 50% of the meeting.

Anti Hydro-fracking movement: Jon requests that members call Gov. Cuomo at his office to state your position against hydro-fracking at 518 474 8390. We can also call Hakeem Jefferies our local politician who is against hydro- fracking too.

Next Meeting: Sunday July 15 th, 2012 11:00 a.m. raindate TBD.

minutes taken & typed by Traci Nottingham, Secretary