

## **PHCF IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT TO GARDEN MEMBERS:**

Effective immediately, Garden Administrator Neil Richardson has retired from his position on the board. He will be moving to another state with his family and will be unavailable for participation at the next meeting. He is however happy to help as best he can until someone else fills his position. Eva, co-coordinator will be fulfilling his duties with the assist of any board member interested until a new coordinator is chosen. Neil will also be retiring his box to whoever is next up on the list.

*"I have enjoyed leading the garden for my short tenure and will miss the role and the garden a great deal."* - Neil

We will miss you Neil!

## **PHCF October 2014 General Meeting Minutes**

1:10PM - 2:08 PM

### Attendance:

Jennifer Richman, Eva Wang, Alex Hayes, William Law, Neil Richardson, Vanessa Chakour, Frances Norwood, Joey DeLeo, Traci Nottingham, Johanna Bauman, Hans Steiner, Jean Kahler, Jennie Spector, Lisa Watkins, Brian L. Thompson, Lee Schere, Marva Sealy, Rachael Glicksman, Redelia Nottingham

### New Members:

Annie Egleson

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Brief introduction by Neil and welcome to new members

### Coordinator Updates:

#### Treasury report by Johanna:

We have \$3,525.85 in our OSI account and \$384.40 in petty cash - a total of \$3910.25 in total.

#### Secretary report by Jennifer:

Proposes that we ratify minutes for August and September meetings and members vote

August - 12 yes, 0 against, 6 abstain

September - 11 yes, 0 against, 4 abstain.

Both month's meeting minutes are ratified.

#### Service Hours Report by Eva:

This is the last month to fulfill open hours requirements. Eva has updated the open hours list - members, please review it. Overall, we are doing much better regarding completion of service hours as compared to last year. There are a few box holders who are at risk to lose their box due to not fulfilling requirements.

- 10 hours of service hours required for non-box holders (6 hours must be completed as open hours)
- 20 hours of service hours required for box holders (12 hours must be completed as open hours)

Neil -\*\*If you are working open hours on Fridays after 5PM, please take the trash out. If Water barrels need to be filled, please either do it or send an email to the list serve that it needs to be done.

Also if anyone is interested in going with Neil (via car) to help in picking up garden supplies, please let him know. The supplies are heavy and help is appreciated.

#### Box Coordinator Report by Joey:

There are 32 people on the box waiting list. There are about 32 boxes and about 80 total members

#### Communications Report by Will:

A map of the garden was created. It is on the website for reference. We can also refer to this with regard to Stewardship.

#### Master Gardener Report by Traci:

Thank you to Eva for writing blog about the garden. A couple of trees need to be removed in the garden and some de-weeding needs to be done.

#### Compost Report by Jennie and Lee:

Request to members to please chop up your compost.

The compost team is starting to plan for the leaf drop. The dates and times that we will be accepting leaves are: 10/26 from 10AM-4PM, 11/9 from 10AM-2PM, 11/16 from 10AM-2PM. The "Compost Project" will help us to shred the leaves which will go in the tall bin behind the sifter. Volunteers are needed in order to direct people where to put the leaves. An announcement will be sent out via list serve. Some new leaves were just discovered today which will be included.

Traci asks if using an electric lawnmower would be a good idea however it was reported that it is too time consuming and a gas powered lawnmower is better. Traci asks if we should sell the electric lawnmower. It was agreed to save it - Johanna will put it in her basement.

Lee: We have compost available for the taking. Next Sunday at 11AM there will be a compost meeting. Anyone can come - it will involve planning for the winter. Compost happens year round and volunteers on Sundays would be appreciated.

#### BANG Report by Neil:

BANG is having a bake sale for fundraising on November 2nd. If you are a baker and want to help, please contact Kayla.

### Events Report by Traci and Neil:

Pumpkin Smash coming up - should we postpone the event, being that it is the day after Halloween? It is agreed not to postpone. Date and time is 11/1 12:30-4PM

Pumpkins rot fast, better to do it sooner. Flyers are needed.

Planning - we need people to BBQ, provide entertainment if possible, and bring potatoes and materials.

Brian- will bring potatoes and tin foil. How many? was agreed 3 lb.. each.

Traci - will bring sour cream

Jennifer - will bring her guitar and sing, will reach out to other members if they would like to perform as well.

We also need fixings and treats.

Bulb planting was done around this time last year.

### Announcements:

#### Season Extension Workshop:

by BBG - how to build cold frame, prepare for winter. Date October 25th - subject to change.

#### Compost Workshop:

Proposed by compost committee to have one in the beginning of each season to welcome greater participation beginning next year.

#### Noise Tracking project:

Neil: We were asked to host a project to track noise impact in the area. This would require keeping a large machine/tracking device in the garden. It is agreed that we will not do it. Neil asks that if anyone would like to host this project in their backyard, to please let him know.

#### Steward Proposal:

It is proposed that we need a more formal structure to managing communal areas of the garden. There are about 21 areas. It is a way to involve new members, increase transparency and communication regarding care of the communal areas. This includes the tree wells. At the last meeting we looked at a draft of the proposal and suggested revisions. It has since been revised and copies were handed out to meeting members as well as posted on the list-serve for review. It proposes that we wipe the slate clean - between now and the start of the next year, we will vote on new stewards. It is proposed that potential stewards put together a paragraph (can include drawings).

Responsibilities would include making self available for people to contact you with questions and/or should someone want to become involved. If a steward does not fulfill their duties, they can be divested. Francis is exempted from having to submit a proposal. It is also proposed that we use a web platform to facilitate communication at least post online the names and contact info of the stewards as well as their proposal design. A list would also be posted in the shed.

Lee recommends we maintain the history of the garden. How do we capture the ideas from past design - people who gardened in the past? Redelia welcomes the idea of new people planting. Will reports that he has already been consulting with master gardeners about this issue. Neil reminds that when her review proposals for ripping things out - making significant changes, master gardeners are to be consulted. Eva reminds that just because people submit proposals, does not mean that they need to change the layout. The goal is to create transparency into the goings on of work being done in the communal areas. This helps to prevent neglect as well.

Traci - with regard to the 5th point on the proposal - "abide by gardening and ground keeping rules" - wants to add tree cutting and pruning must be supervised by a master gardener.

Johanna- Wants to update grounds keeping - also wants restrictions on tree pruning unless supervised. It goes in the ground keeping rules.

Vote by Johanna, second by Brian 19 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention

We will re-communicate this to the list serve

Alcohol Use- It is proposed to allow it, we have allowed it in the past. Refraining from alcohol use is a greenthumb rule. TPL said we could not have it - a few years ago we needed to restrict it because it had become a problem. People were leaving bottles everywhere and were not being responsible. Recycling days are Monday night. Brian recalls having to clean up after everyone when he used to take out the recycling and it was a problem.

It will be proposed again at the next meeting for people to vote that it be allowed for community events such as the Pumpkin Smash. Jean suggests that someone draft a proposal if they are interested.

Next Meeting: Saturday, November 8th 1PM

Minutes recorded and typed by Jennifer Richman garden secretary 10/24/14