

## PHCF April 14th, 2019 General Membership Meeting

### Attendees

- Akosua Al
  - Alex Bra
  - Catherine Or
  - Cecelia Sha
  - Debra Phi
  - Greg Ma
  - Isabel De
  - Jennie Sp
  - Jessica St
  - Joanne Dit
  - Joseph De
  - Josh Ru
  - Traci No
  - J.P Pa
  - Zach Du
  - Lee Sc
  - Judith Sa
- Louise Br
  - Lynn Arm
  - Martha El
  - Melissa Bo
  - Noah Bro
  - Penelope Wo
  - Rachel In
  - Rosemarie Ma
  - Rosemary Pa
  - Ruth Ma
  - Sheila Bo
  - Sonia Mu
  - Talia Ko
  - Vanessa Mo
  - Virginia We

### Late Attendees

- Eman Ra

### New 2019 Members

- Dana Bo
- Rachel Ra

### Prospective Members

- Emily Hol
- Megan Wat
- Philip Sil
- Tim O'Su
- B Sto
- Sarah Str

### Guest Attendees

- Jon Crowe -  
BANG

**Zach chaired the meeting, opened it at 1:35 pm and welcomed everyone.**

1. **Zach called the meeting to order and confirmed that quorum was met, based upon the PHCF Bylaws.**
  - a. Article 3, Section 5 – *Quorum*

“A quorum shall be determined by March 31 of every year for meetings held over the following twelve months. A quorum for the purposes of the Annual Meeting, regular meetings and special meetings shall consist of 33 percent of Garden Members in good standing, as defined in Article II, Section 7.”
  - b. 2019 Quorum = 29
    - i. 87 garden members as of March 31, 2019

**2. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting** - postponed because corrections had not been re-issued from Winter meeting

## Officer Reports

### 3. Officers reports

- a. **Coordinators:** Zach and Traci - Thanked everyone for the election
  - i. Meeting Attendance - What Counts? - must attend ½ of meeting
  - ii. Community Guidelines - Be respectful of each other in the garden community; All-garden emails should be sent to listserve and try not to

mix threads; Ask people's name again, if need be; Members encouraged to speak - those who speak frequently should step back and allow others to step forward

- iii. Daisy Groups visiting - May 19th, Rachel will be host.
- iv. School Groups visiting - This week school groups will visit every day except Friday. Anna and Virginia will be present.
- v. Event Request Reminder - Event forms need to be filled out 2 weeks in advance.
- vi. Survivors Grow - Zach shared that a group of NYU students looking to create or borrow space for a garden for domestic violence survivors reached out to PHCF. He replied to them that though the garden supports their mission, it was not able to offer private growing space to outside groups, though they could use the event request form if they wanted to have a meeting or gathering at the garden.
- vii. The garden received a \$50 thank you donation from a community resident for our good work.

- b. **Secretaries:** Selina and Jennie - Selina not present, Jennie arrived late and Traci took notes in the meantime.
- c. **Treasurers:** Martha and Rosemarie - Rosemarie gave report: We have \$3092 in the bank; \$220 in petty cash; We have a business PayPal account now. She shared that any payments to it should be via the "friends and family" option to avoid service fees.

-Jon Crowe noted that NY Community Bank does not charge fees like Sterling Bank does.

-Traci asked if credit unions been checked.

- d. **Master Gardeners:** Catherine, Traci, Virginia, and Joey

-Joey is asking Green Thumb for wood chips; Virginia announced soil order is in process, so people need to let Virginia know if they need soil and there is some chicken manure in the shed (Joey explained that one yogurt container per box should be used).

-Joey offered to do a soil testing workshop, if desired.

-Melissa plans to cede the strawberry box, so it needs a steward and there is an idea to move plants to planters to the front of the garden by the fence or use vertical planters somewhere.

-Traci reminds that there are three steward areas still remaining to be claimed (Evergreen Edge, The Hill, Tree Pits) and steward map will be passed around to sign up to help steward to care for an area.

- e. **Compost:** Lee and Rachel - Rachel gave report
  - i. Compost 101 workshop by Judy Sackoff on Mother's Day, May 12, from 1:30-2:30 pm (community event)

- ii. Working on the leaf bin - plan to schedule a workday
  - iii. Exploring a Grow NYC organics pick-up
  - iv. Please take compost from the two black round munchers
  - v. Friendly reminder: please close the doors to the finished compost munchers after getting your compost. Rats will enter if left open!
  - vi. Email [compost@phcfarm.com](mailto:compost@phcfarm.com) to join the compost team
- f. **Communications:** Cecelia and Johanna - Cecelia gave report, Johanna not present
- i. Group question: any lingering new members not on the listserv? - make sure to check your email and spam folder; listserv is where all community announcements and events are listed.
  - ii. Promoting the upcoming Plant Sale + blog posts!
- g. **Service Hours:** Greg - there is a new "re-imagined" sign-up sheet and May calendar posted in front box.
- Zach reminds that AT LEAST 60% of REQUIRED hours must be open hours and THE REMAINDER CAN BE service hours; Joanne reminds people to cross off their names if they miss a shift they signed up for; Lee reminds that compost shifts count as open hours.
  - If it's raining, you don't have to come for your shift, BUT YOU WON'T GET CREDIT FOR OPEN HOURS. Also if you only do a portion of your shift reflect that on the calendar.
- h. **Boxes:** Anna - Anna was not present and Traci gave report.
- Box list and wait list were passed around by Traci.
  - All plots are assigned and new box holders need to read over and sign agreements (Rachel, Cilla, Isabel, Greg, and Din are new box holders.)
  - Any new box holders who would like to move to another box should contact Anna to be added to waitlist for box movement.
  - The waitlist is 24 strong and we are still looking for someone who would like to share Isabel's box, along with 4 communal spots that are not taken.
  - If anyone wishes to join the waitlist they can now, by contacting Anna.
  - If anyone thinks there is an error on the waitlist please contact Anna.
  - You can check the public list on the website to check your status.

-A reminder that the TILL BY DATE IS May 1 - meaning you need to start working on and planting in your box by then.

-If anyone needs soil or wood for their box they can contact Anna.

-Member asked how she gets back on the list because she didn't do enough hours last year and was told to contact Anna to be added back on the waitlist.

i. **BANG:** Joanne and Judith - Judith gave report.

-gave a brief description of BANG; annual meeting was last month and Joanne Dittersdorf is now the President; each garden has a representative to the BANG board; added communications to job of secretary and co-treasurer.

-2019 BANG budget was approved at the Annual meeting, but Joanne and Judy abstained because PCHF hadn't approved the budget yet. A copy was emailed to the listserv.

-Today, 4/14/19, the BANG board meeting will meet here at PHCF

-some President St and Bears are having rat problems

-Green Thumb - need to complete re-registration form and need at least 10 members to fill it out to prove we have real members

#### 4. Committee reports

j. Rat Pack - Greg gave report - He and Joey went to the Rat Academy - DOH gave a presentation at library

-DOH did a walk through and found no evidence of rats!! Applause all around!

k. Greenhouse - Ruth & JP are Managers - Ruth reported

-many heirloom tomato seeds were started from seeds

-purpose is to start plants for plant sale and for everyone's use, but must use sterile pots and clean soil, not garden soil

-Ruth did give a workshop on how to start seeds, but only one person came

-Joey reports that the Central library at GAP has a new seed library on the 2nd floor and ask the librarian, they will be adding to the library.

#### 5. Unfinished business

l. Memorial Bench Update - Traci reported

- in progress and will be ordered this week.

-takes 6 weeks for bronze plaque & leaves to be delivered, once deposit is given.

-last year we celebrated our 20 yr anniversary and we will have a memorial bench to place "leaves" as name plates for members who have died to memorialize and the honorific bronze plaque for the Plaza.

## 6. New business

- m. Portable Toilet - Akosua reported that a contracted business would service the toilet weekly (emptying and keeping it stocked)

Discussion:

- Joanne - against it because it's another thing to maintain
- Martha - \$150/month is not feasible financially, takes up too much of the budget
- Joey - Rat Academy discouraged it
- Catherine - we can easily use other bathrooms nearby ie. Ample Hills

It was decided that we will not pursue getting a portable toilet. There was no formal vote, only an agreement that there was not enough support to pursue getting a toilet.

- n. Brief long-term goal brainstorming session (Zach) -

- getting a new shed
- refurbishment and rebuilding in compost area
- maintaining a rat-free garden
- encourage communication and participation - if you've felt uncomfortable in the past, please feel free to approach Zach or another garden Board member to discuss if that's more comfortable for you.
- Cecelia suggested more engagement with the public community - having more events, particularly with other BANG gardens
- Joanne mentioned that one of the BANG gardens coordinated gardening at a local nursing home last year and **IT** would be nice to do that again.

- o. Approach to Development Threatening Brooklyn Botanical Gardens

(Virginia) - want to support BBG in the fight against the development that is proposed and will cast a large shadow; She will be informing us when there are actions we can take; (Akosua) Movement To Protect the People (MTOPP) led by Alicia Boyd is heading up opposition efforts against the development.

## 7. Announcements

- p. Greenthumb Reregistration - Joanne
- q. Plant Sale: April 28, May 4-5, May 11-12, 10am-6pm

(Rose) - We can sign up on the sheet in front box, it's a great way to spend time in the garden; we can take cash and credit card payment through Square (that is linked to our bank account)

- r. May Social: Bring Your Own Brunch 11:00 am to Noon (before the May Meeting)
- s. May Meeting: May 11, 2019 - Noon to 1:00 pm
- t. Photo at May Meeting: We will take a group picture to represent the 2019 season's members

Cecelia - there are future socials coming up in June, July & August - first one will be for Pride at a bar on Vanderbilt; others will be announced on listserve.

- u. Other announcements

(Joanne) Chik-Fillet - plans to put it next to Shake Shack on Flatbush across from Barclays, community efforts to oppose that because the ownership are anti-LGBTQ/abortion.

Montessori school will be coming in tomorrow, Monday 4/15/19, at 9-11am.  
Need one more garden member to be present - Louise volunteered and Isabel will be there as well.

**8. Adjournment - BANG Land Trust meeting & Group Gardening Day follow immediately after**

Zach motioned to close at 2:34pm.

Traci wishes everyone Happy Passover and Easter!