

July 10, 2019 PHCF General Membership Meeting; 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Attendees

- Debra Ph
- Colby So
- Sonia Mu
- Rawaan Al
- Zach Du
- Greg Ma
- Traci No
- Catherine Or
- J.P.
- Gamall Aw
- Rosemarie Ma
- Anna Ha
- Rachel In
- Johanna Ba
- Kayla Sc
- Vanessa Mo
- Allison Bo
- Brian Th
- John Mc
- Cilla Eh
- Dolores Br
- Jennifer Ri

Prospective Members

- Keen Ga
- Gamall Aw
- Kristina Ba
- Kyle Vi
- David Cu

Agenda

1. **Call to order by Zach at 7:02pm.**
 - a. With round of introductions and mentions of how people found out about the garden
2. **Approve previous minutes**
 - a. June 8, 2019 meeting minutes approved
3. **Officers reports**
 - a. Coordinators: Zach and Traci
 - i. Community Guidelines.
 - ii. Recent Events/Visitors
 1. June Social. Zach was the sole person in attendance. He has asked for electronic RSVP's for the July social.
 2. DIY Mending Workshop. Traci: 5-7 attendees, was well received, would like to do again in the fall.
 3. School Visits. Sonya: school visits 9:3-10:30 yesterday. Noah took the lead and did a workshop involving compost and worms. Worms were popular. Any volunteer for school visit gets service hours.
 - iii. GreenThumb/NYC Parks Open Garden Day: DIY Native Seed Bombs - Zach got all materials donated. BBG donated wild native seeds. BKLYN CLAY donated the clay. Idea is to make seed bombs to beautify empty lots. Cardboard egg cartons donations still needed. Event is July 20th at 11 am. For everyone, please attend.
 - b. Secretaries: Selina and Jennie. No report.
 - c. Treasurers: Martha and Rosemarie. Bank balances \$4892.76 checking account, and \$228 petty cash.
 - d. Master Gardeners: Catherine, Traci, Virginia, and Joey
 - i. Catherine, thanks everyone for chips spreading. Suggests an "ask the master gardener" event.

- ii. Steward availabilities: Tree Pits & Evergreen Edge please email if interested
 - iii. Greenest Block in Brooklyn contest update: "PHCF did not make the next cut." But will plan ahead for next year. We spent less than \$20, mostly for strapping the planters to the fence. Everything else was here already or donated.
 - iv. Harvest fair for flowers and fruits will be at BK Bears in September. Gardeners should think about entering the competition
- e. Compost: Lee and Rachel
 - i. Judy's Compost 101 workshop went well, modest turn out of 7 or so people but everyone was engaged and interested.
 - ii. There is no space for an additional can.
 - iii. Compost team has met to discuss strategies for increased drop-offs. First part of plan is communication sign for general public. If cans are full we can no longer take more scraps. Leaving scraps outside the bins attracts rodents. The sign includes a map with two other drop-off sites that have greater capacity. The sign also communicates that we are a small volunteer run site with limited capacity.
 - 1. \$11 for lamination total cost.
 - iv. Work to improve and update signage is continuing. Vanessa and Rachel mini committee for compost related signage throughout the year. Phase 2 additional signage, will involve what is compostable and what is not. What can we put in compost? No compostable bags or other products. No meat fish dairy oil, grains.
 - v. Catherine asked whether we can take less compost from the coop and Johanna explained we can't take less and qualify for the sawdust and cash that the PSF Coop provides.
 - vi. Why doesn't Prospect Heights have city compost brown bins? Expensive, and there has been blow back against the program.
- f. Communications: Cecelia and Johanna
 - i. Reminder re: listserv again, still not reaching everyone who signs up. New members check your spam after sign up. Look for a yahoo email.
 - ii. New Kid's Corner on website in development, there is a current blog post but there will be additional content. Jennifer suggested list of activities which will also be added.
- g. Service Hours: Greg
 - i. In June, we completed 75% of our available Open Hours. If you cannot keep your commitment, email the membership to let others know there is an available spot.
 - ii. Please sign-in with your full first name and at least an initial for your last name, and please write legibly or you will not get credit.
 - iii. An email has been sent to members who have already met their hourly commitment. Those people should only sign up for open hours on a same-day or next-day basis, so others can meet their Open Hours requirement.
 - iv. August calendar to be posted at July meeting.
- h. Boxes: Anna

- i. 1 delayed plot box assignment due to a family emergency. Anna will go through list to fill the last box.
 - ii. Please keep walkways clear so people can walk through without ruining plants.
- i. BANG: Joanne and Judith not able to attend this meeting
 - i. Meeting Monday July 14, 1:00 pm @ Pacific Street Bear's Garden.
 - ii. Two items requiring PHCF Member discussion/vote (we contribute, we have a say) in new business

4. Committee reports

- a. Rat Pack - Greg: Remain Vigilant! Bait boxes have been refreshed, and most of them evidenced activity (nibbles). Rat sightings by 2 people today. Keep compost area clean. Try to avoid plants that cover ground, keep perimeter clear. Pick ripe fruit or veg. so this doesn't attract them.
- b. Asked if we can pay someone to help us build a leaves bin? Reach out to other community gardens for volunteers to help? We have \$4800 in the bank, can we get a quote to help to build this?

5. Unfinished business

- a. Event Request Form Update - tabled until August meeting, Zach and the board welcome suggestions for how to improve the process.

6. New business

- a. Event request
 - i. Poetry in the Garden, Saturday, Aug. 24, 5:00 -7:00 pm (volunteers requested, Service Hours available). This event was held last year and was a hit so asking if they can do it again this August?
 - 1. Unanimous approval.
- b. BANG Questions
 - i. Can sister gardens to BANG gardens that are not under the BANG umbrella (for example Rockwell Bears and Carlton Bears) open bank accounts using BANG's EIN with the issuing bank providing a letter that states that BANG is in no way responsible for the account and simply acts as a "fiscal umbrella?"
 - 1. Discussion of any possible risks to our garden. Agreed that we should support sister gardens and that Bears is a well established garden.
 - 2. Approved (16), Opposed (1) Abstaining (5)
 - ii. As President Street raises funds to fix their gate this season, can they forgo this year's (2019) water payment and use the "balance" leftover from past years' water payments to cover the amount? To give perspective, over the past two years their water balance has been \$359.62 and they have contributed \$731 from the Taste of 5th fundraiser to go towards water with the remaining being donated to BANG.
 - 1. Would not affect us as we are not a member of the gardens that need to pay for water. Taste of 5th has been success they always give more money than they take. We should enable BANG to help other gardens. We are robust but others are not.
 - 2. Approved with no opposition. Abstentions (3)

- c. New Shed
 - i. Tabled

7. Announcements

- a. July Social: Prospect Park Picnic Sat. July 13, 1:00 pm, please RSVP according to provided link in email.
- b. Workday & Orientation, Sun. July 14 at 11:00 am. Main priority is to weed along building, and bench repair. Opportunity for orientation also.
- c. BANG meeting Monday July 14, 1:00 pm @ Pacific Street Bear's Garden
- d. GT Open Garden Day: DIY Native Seed Bomb, Sat. July 20, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm
- e. August Meeting: Sat. Aug 17, 2019, 11:00 am - Noon, August Social: BBQ following meeting
- f. Brian, performing in concerts Thursday/Friday/Saturday. Various locations in the city.
- g. Jennifer suggested kids social day with kids activities do on a regular basis.

8. Adjournment

- a. Meeting ended 8:08