

Project Grow Board Meeting
Date
6:30pm at the Leslie Science Center

Attending: Devon Akmon(President), Melissa Kesterson(Executive Director), Leigh Ann Phillips-Knope (Assistant Director), Dustin Underwood(Secretary), Damaris Sufalko, Kirk Jones, Terre Fisher, Catherine Riseng.

Board Called to order at 6:30 PM

Minutes

Consent Agenda:

- April 2009 Minutes approved.
- ED Report: Approved
 - *Time frame for abandon plots
 - End of May is the due date for gardens to be used but this is dealt with softly and Melissa calls each gardener to ensure they are working their gardens previous to granting abandon plots to new gardeners.
 - Updates:
 - New Garden: Northside park is committed.
 - Size of Gardens: 8-10 or more is optimum but certain gardens have less than that. These smaller gardens are an advantage to connections with the city partnerships, etc. The idea of changing some of these gardens to half plots would benefit and serve more gardeners. Cost of these smaller gardens is a question to look into.
 - Possible new gardens (upcoming neighborhood meeting): Burns park area (6-10 plots, no water).
- Assistant Director report:
 - *Leslie science center plots are $\frac{3}{4}$ empty. 15 beds have been repaired and we are ready for new outreach for new gardeners in this area.

Organizational Business:

- City Funding update: Mike Anglin and Sabre Briere are writing a resolution to try to get funding for Project Grow included back in the budget. City council will vote again in June. Fund balance has been an issue for some council members. Melissa is addressing this question with council.
- Standing agenda (Royer): Catherine motioned to adopt and discuss, Demaris second. Discussion- Updates by board: Approved minutes (previous month) and current month Agenda should be posted, and any other reports that are appropriate. Remove: Revenue forecast based on gardener count, Begin plot fee revenue. Note: All financial information will be provided through quarterly report.
 - *With approved changes, Standing Agenda is unanimous approval by Board.
- Project grow office space: Project Grow must be out of current office by end of August. Ideas for new office space included Food Gatherers, Basement at Leslie, Matthei, Nichols arboretum, New Center.

New Business:

- Newsletter future (Melissa): Melissa proposed a discussion on phasing out the paper newsletter and go fully electronic. The cost of the paper newsletter includes printing, postage, and is fairly expensive. Discussion will continue in the future.
- Tomato tasting: Kirk is working further on looking into doing the tasting at the Ann Arbor Farmers Market.

Tabled Items:

Next Meeting:

6:30 PM June 11th at Leslie Science Center

Submitted by Dustin Underwood, Board Secretary