

Project Grow Board Minutes for May 12, 2011 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 P.M. on Thursday, May 12, 2011 at Leslie Science Center.

Present: Eric, Kirk, Dave, Cindy, Marcella, Ralph, Lucas

Minutes: Approved minutes from April meeting.

Responses to Director's Report:

Catholic Social Services (CSS) site has an issue with Alfaro's (?) paperwork. He (they?) have paid only \$158 for four plots: 6, 7, 3, 4 at CSS

Letters were sent to senior center to inform them of available plots.

Board decided that plots 3 and 4 at CSS are now available for rent.

West Park needs water - Have Waterworks take a look, give us an estimate to run a water line and work it out with city. How will we split cost with Growing Hope?

Discussion of the quality of plowing - Kevin may be just scraping the surface. What type of tilling tools does he have for his tractor?

Lakewood - Dave is working out new plot sizes, as all are undersized. Dave will contact Ann Arbor Public Schools Rec & Ed about paying for plot used by summer camp.

Board gave Dave permission to give refunds to gardeners that request it for undersized plots for this year.

Greenview- Also has plots at less than 750 square feet/full plot. What to do?

Need to ask gardeners for feedback on new website/registration.

Send an email with responses to Kirk on plowing scheduling. How late is OK to plow?

Organizational Business:

Board meeting in June will be an IT meeting - June 9

Plant Sale- First day sale plants at Inge's

Friday evening May 20 need to walk plants out to vehicles - when Kevin is available.

Label shelves at Fourth Ave, to make alpha order much easier.

At this point there are 51 pre-orders at \$1900.

Plant sale on Saturdays May 21 and 28

Volunteers report form Lucas

Lucas has some volunteer coordinators, marketing coordinator

Need newsletter by time of the plant sale

Lucas will have someone do the volunteer of the month for the newsletter.

Lucas's discussed many of his goals:

recruitment process, adding to the website - volunteer events and volunteer recruitment

Facebook can collect data

Volunteermatch.org on the website - paid service may be something to investigate in the future

Having a calendar of events - many volunteer opportunities

Constant Contact can be used for volunteers

150 volunteers recruited this year

Volunteer orientations - opening volunteer meeting

email addresses for volunteer coordinators

pay for business cards

• Board voted pay for business cards for volunteers - charge on Project Grow debit card

Document on Google Docs as a handbook, to document job descriptions. Eric is doing this and Lucas is going to.

• ***Board voted to allow Lucas to have Scott Meeves charge us for IT work.***

Lucas will organize a Project Grow gardeners visit to Wishing Tree Gardens.

3 photographers will work for Project Grow. Time lapse photography of gardens would be fun.
How to organize photos?

There is a volunteer will make compost bins.
Old House bulbs offer dahlia bulbs for Plant Sale

Brightmore Community Gardens in Detroit on west side - can we donate excess tomatoes from our sale?

We need promotional materials updated and improved. Lucas has a volunteer to help with this.

Auto window stickers as promotion, new t-shirts?

Creating products for the website in the future?

Dawn Farm Greenhouse

Hoop house won't work. Need heat.

We are out of Matthei, probably for good.

Build a greenhouse on their land. They would use part of it. Need to put a point well for water.

Size? 3000 plants in 6-packs - Need 300 square feet

They like the idea of doing it with another non-profit.

Cost vs. Income - public relations. Could be doing more with it in the long run.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:48 P.M.