

Project Grow Board Minutes

March 10th, 2022

Zoom

Meeting began at 7:06 pm

Board members present:

Royer Held

Joe Schutte

Dave Corsa

W. Scott Richardson

Sharon Fay

Marcella

Joanie Stovall

Joet Reoma

Dan Noble

Marcella Trautmann

also: Kirk Jones: Managing Director,

Absent: Jesse Raudenbush,

Meeting started at 7:04PM

Marcella nominated for a three-year board position. She was elected unanimously by the board members present.

January board minutes approved

Managing Director's Report (copied directly from the report with comments included in red)

Community Gardens

Registration is going well with 401 confirmed and 16 unconfirmed on March 9th. This is about 25 behind last year but more than any other year except 2021.

Many sites are filled. We still have plots at:

Airport

Buhr Park **Almost full**

Chapel Hill
County Farm
Ellsworth
Leslie **Completely full**
County Farm Discovery are mostly full.
There is lots of space at AACIL.

Member Handbook Revisions

We have revisions from board members. Still need to send it to site coordinators. **It was decided to send them out to the site coordinators for comments. We will give them a deadline of one week to read & submit comments.**

Site Coordinator and New Gardener Shindig Meetings

On the agenda but we need to decide on dates for these and plan for what will happen.

More than One Plot

Joanie and I have been following the rule that beginning this year if you get more than one plot at a single site, you cannot count on being able to renew more than one full plot. It is still unclear how this should work for multiple sites but I kind of think the same rule should apply. For example, one gardener has a half plot at Hunt and also a half at Hillside. **No other comments on this from the board.**

Plant Sale

Right now we have 60 advance orders for 1133 plants. Peppers and basil were started last week and we start tomatoes and sweet peas next Thursday. We have sold out of 110 lisianthus.

@projectgrowgardens.org Email Addresses

We need someone to monitor volunteer@. Is there a volunteer committee? **Joet has volunteered to receive & respond to any & all inquiries. He will respond & cc Joe, Kirk, & Joanie.**

Speak to the City Employees

We were asked to give a lunchtime talk to city employees via Zoom Wednesday March 23rd noon-1pm. The topic is "Seeds for Thought, Planning Your Summer Garden". Marcella doesn't want to do it. Royer or Joet? Anyone else? **Joet will handle this.**

Talk at Ann Arbor Farm and Garden

Ann Arbor Farm and Garden asked us to give a talk to their group on April 14th about Project Grow. They asked a few hours before telling us we got the grant for AACIL, a tip off that we would get the grant. Joanie and I have not really planned this out yet but are not worried about it.

Training

Joanie and I have been working together on registration and talk or text almost every day. We have divided the gardens between us and we are each doing about half. This continues to work well.

Treasurer's Report

Expenses

5134.23 Employee Compensation
202.50 Accounting
176.56 Retreat food, misc.
104.75 Seed Share containers
-5618.04 TOTAL

Assets

138,365.22 Vanguard Mutual Funds
23,325.71 PayPal Account
7346.06 Lake Trust Credit Union Checking
514.20 Lake Trust CU Savings
169,050.99 TOTAL

50th Anniversary

We discussed the 50th Anniversary tee shirts. They will cost from \$10 to \$12 a shirt. We plan to give them out to all volunteers for our events. Kirk agreed to provide an estimated number of people that would get shirts.

Scott is now CTN coordinator. This will give us access to free advertising on the public access channel. All upcoming events will be on CTN public television. Comcast channel 16-19, AT&T channel 99. Scott will have access to recording equipment & the final work will be broadcast on the channel.

The 50th celebration will be held at Leslie Science Center at Aug 20th open to the public from 11-3.

Education Committee

Very high attendance at all courses! Seema Jolly (Rec&Ed Manager) is leaving Rec & Ed.

Plant Sale

Advance orders are coming in, everything is going as planned. Joet talked about butterfly pollinator plants & wondered if we could pollinator start & sell Budderfly Weed & Milkweed. Possibly next year.

Seed share

The seed share at DTH&G went very well & was very well attended. We are at now at 330 orders.

Info Tech

VOID (website builders) has got back to us & we will be meeting with them soon.

Status of Restated Articles of Incorporation

Royer attempted to uploaded them but they had some issues which have been resolved & should be uploaded soon.

Site Coordinator's Meeting

After a lot of discussion, we decided that this would hold the meeting on Zoom. After a lot more discussion it was decided to hold the meeting on Thursday 24th at 7:00. We will send out a request for an agenda to the board. We will send out the invite in a week & include a request for any questions they may have.

County Farm Site Coordinators

Sharon & Joanie are resigning as coordinators for 2022. Scott will be a site coordinator. As far as we know Karl & Nan are staying but we will verify that. We will be sending out a request for volunteers for another coordinator.

New Gardeners Shindig

Scott covered 2021 meeting very well, will share his notes & we have an agenda. We will the meeting on Zoom on Tuesday April 5th.

The April Board meeting is being rescheduled to April 7th because of a class on the 14th.

Request for PG partnership with Ann Arbor Commons Green.

Joet reported that the library lot has been designated as a park & a common garden. Community Commons Committee. Joet will work with them as a Project Grow Rep. He gave detailed plans on how they plan to set the garden site. Financial support is provided by the Library Conservancy. Ann Arbor Bank, the Downtown Development Authority & others. There is no financial obligations for PG whatsoever. The board approved of Joet representing PG.

Use of Leslie Discovery Gardens by SEND for eco-machine demonstrations.

In an area that's not been used for years Joet proposed we let the SEND organization use that area to develop eco-machines that will be used to clean up the Huron River. We discussed the pros & cons for a while & decided to move this to email.

Need for repair of Leslie Discovery Gardens.

Due to time constraints this item was moved to next month.

Meeting ended at 9:10PM