

**Hansberry Garden and Nature Center
Board Meeting
Minutes
January 27, 2018**

Present: Chris Mendel, Keisa Thompson, Cherron Perry, Vicki Mehl, Becky Mendel, Claudia Ginanni, Dennis Barnebey

1. Meeting Called to order: 4:30 PM
2. Minutes from last meeting were read and approved

3. President's report:

New co-chairs, Vicki and Claudia met to discuss division of responsibilities:

- a. Claudia - Will maintain on-line and phone communication (garden's phone number being routed to her), social media and web domain issues.
- b. Vicki - All membership issues, maintaining current list, box assignments, e-mails to membership. "President" email will be to her.
- c. Shared issues: Developing programming, financial over-site (with Keisa), fund raising, and leadership growth. They will hold a weekly phone conference to stay in touch.

Transition issues - Claudia and Leonard met to discuss the emails, websites, etc. that needed to be transferred.

2. Treasurers report (Keisa)

- a. Copies of contribution checks available so acknowledgements can be sent. (Online contributions have been easier to access)
- b. System of recording check received dates, not just deposit date, is important. Keisa keeps copies of checks with record of deposit for that record, but will ask bank if a way to receive electronic copy of deposits.
- c. Claudia, Vicki, Keisa to meet to iron out difficulties in system for future. Claudia will take cancelled checks to make sure thank you letter gets sent out.
- d. A full financial report to be available in the coming week.

3. Maintenance (Chris)

Greenhouse:

- a. Goal is to produce own material for plant sale, though could also be used for gardeners. Programming needs to be in LUMP.
- b. Kit has been damaged in the winter weather. Chris created stable base, but needs tie-down device to withstand 50 mph winds.
- c. **Motion to approve needed materials to stabilize the greenhouse. PASSED**
- d. Volunteers needed for maintenance of greenhouse (7 folks, one each day?) Claudia to put out request.

Other:

- a. Fence was cut near small gate with a few things taken. Need to replace wire mesh fence.
- b. Need to replace corrugated material on front of shed.
- c. Mural Arts Restorative Justice Prog. could build a shed to replace metal shed this Spring.

PROPOSE: Discuss shed rebuild with LUMP, as well as possibility and placement of composting toilet.

- d. **PROPOSE: Develop a calendar or even a list of priorities for next steps needed for various maintenance needs, especially following Ramon's grotto build.** This will help in recruiting outside groups who might want to help on various tasks. Use google calendar to schedule with goal of Calendar in place by Spring Gathering.
- e. Tend-the-Garden Days proposed for 3rd Sat. of each month, with Spring Gathering the 3rd Sat. in March.
- f. Chalkboard paint/plywood expenses approved.

4. Membership (Vicki)

Revised membership agreement was discussed with modest adjustments.

- a. Feb. 28th will be deadline for returning members to renew. If haven't given notice of intention, members can't be guaranteed of same bed or even a bed. Beds known to be available due to non-returns, will be assigned to new members first.
- b. Keys: \$5 for keys (not deposit). Not worth trying to get them back.
- c. ID will be asked for when joining the garden
- d. Members will be asked to indicate willingness to have name/contact info shared with other members
- e. Clause about adult supervision of kids to be added.
- f. Greenhouse policy: to be develop with Membership and LUMP
- g. Contribution categories for non-members will be removed.

5. LUMP

- a. Chun contribution (\$6100). Suggestion to make sure pictures of progress are sent.
- b. Sink purchased
- c. Solar installation discussion with Rob Smith with follow up at meeting.
- d. Meeting Thurs. Feb. 1st, 7 PM 5122 Newhall St.
- e. Send pics to Chun

6. Fund-raising: Plant Sale (Cherron)

- Cut flowers? No money made, but service to neighborhood that has no other outlet for flowers.
- Need to organize plant contributions from neighbors and friends. SUGGEST volunteers be organized to dig up items from those who would rather not do it themselves. (Saul? GFS?)
- Determine what has sold, or not and what would be desirable for better planning.

- Committee meeting by phone within next two weeks. Cherron to develop budget.
- Question: Should we buy small starts from nurseries to grow in our greenhouse?
Aesthetics of nursery grown plants important to customers.

- Claudia: to look for volunteers for both GLEC greenhouse and HGNC.

Special gift for Leonard was considered.

7. Kelly Green:

- a. Sarah Endriss hired to help complete a final plan and engage others.
- a. Churches, organizations and interested individuals are being invited to join a new Steering Committee.
- b. Conversation about site possibilities have included input of staff, parents and students.
- c. Meetings with Sch. District Capital Programs office as well as school administration were both very positive.
- d. Capital Campaign being organized.

8. Communications

- SSL certificate renewed

Meeting adjourned: 6:35

Next meeting: Saturday Feb. 17th 4 PM