

Minutes

Meeting of the Hansberry Garden Board of Directors

February 20, 2022

Virtual meeting via Zoom

Present: Hillary Van Anda, Kirk Raper, Claudia Ginanni, Janet Peterman, Dennis Barnaby, Terry Kathy Miller

- A. Call to Order **1:46pm**
- B. **Bank Balance: 46,082, 10,941 bank balances (19,000 belongs to Kelly Green) 7,000 in paypal**
 - Paying for quickbooks that is too much, should have a discounted version
 - Terry is resigning
 - We will email the membership to see if someone would like to step up as treasurer
- C. Consent Agenda:
 - a. Approve agenda: short, informal meeting, focusing on membership questions, second meeting scheduled in two or three weeks. **Approved 6 yay, 0 nay**
- D. Membership Report:
 - a. General report on 2021: **Difficulties with membership, late team creation, difficult to stay in touch with people, lost a great mentor, Keeping count of member hours was difficult,**
 - b. Proposals for 2022:
 - i. Renewal: **anyone who wants to rejoin can (no hours required)**
 - ii. Committee assignments (note capital-improvement projects below) **keep everyone on same teams as last year, track hours only on paper, only a few people used the online tracking system and it adds work to the membership team**
 - iii. Using vacant beds for a communal-gardening project. Will need to invest in a banner for the garden and some printed flyers. May I approach membership about this? **Will track hours that it takes to manage beds and possibly could hire a part time person to oversee communal beds. Would allow people to join/contribute their bed into the communal work.**
 - iv. **Proposed: delay new membership until decisions are made about communal gardening.**
 - v. **Janet moves to offer communal bed share as an option. Would only be for vacant beds/opt-in as you join. Need more discussion about how to deal with individual beds. Move to offer option of communal gardens to current and new members. Table discussion about details. Motion by Dennis, second by Kirk, aye-5, nay-0**
- E. Treasurer's report or report on funds
- F. President's report:
 - a. Gift from anonymous donor **\$12,000 (8 for HGNC, 4 for Kelly Green)**

- b. Approval to get bids for an accountant **Accounts are very complicated and not well set up currently. Claudia thinks we need a specialized accountant to fix our books.**

- i. Producing reports for funders
- ii. Ability to hire staff legally

Vote for Claudia to solicit bids from accountants on a per hour basis to get books in order to be turned over to new treasurer: Moved by Janet, seconded by Hillary, Aye -5, nay - 0

- c. Possible new board member(s) **Megan Bridge, Interested in coordinating musical events, take Laura's seat, Janet will ask. Kirk motions to have her, Hillary seconded Aye 5, nay 0**

- d. Capital improvement/landscape projects:

- i. Building beds raised to waist height for people in wheelchairs or otherwise unable to bend – collaboration with William Leaser? **Used to work with Philadelphia Furniture workshop, interested in project. Makerspace in Germantown.**
- ii. Water project – Find someone who can excavate.
- iii. Paving walkway. I know a mason who is a committed environmentalist. May I consult him? **YES. Claudia will ask Dave Shogel to help coordinate some of the CILP work.**

- e. Port-a-potty problem: **Refund requested for the months they did not service it. Would rather work with a different company, they've lost the key to the garden several times.**

- f. Insurance refund: **Umbrella covered up to 5 million because of Kelly work. We are receiving a refund because we reduced coverage and insurance is covered for the rest of the year.**

G. Maintenance issues:

- i. Repairing beds. **Work day? Claudia has an offer for some volunteers. 11 beds need work. Kirk moves to hire someone to repair beds. Janet seconds. Nate Gavin 267-467-5876 local carpenter. Dennis will ask him about these projects, shed door, bench repair. Maurice Baloshe(Janet will contact 609-206-9274)-carpenter, Kurt Reixinger (215-704-6833) (garden neighbor) is a carpenter.**
- ii. Shed door. **Hire someone**
- iii. Leveling and fencing off Ortiz driveway **Tiller from the tool share would make it easier to move the soil off the driveway. Have the person who is doing the paving can look at the driveway.**

- H. Kelly Green Report **Over Christmas the land was surveyed, plans will next be made, and then submitted for another grant. 2 small grants from PA Urban Ag program, and another, to build new shed, repair beds, farm stand equipment. In school program this spring looks promising to be approved. Small grant from Feet First Philly to make meadow a walking destination, will get a bench, new signage, painted stepping stones/art work on sidewalk to lead people to meadow. Audubon society offered workshops at the meadow this spring/summer. Paying 3 times a**

year for 3 years to have maintenance to keep out invasives and establish the natives.

- I. New Business:
 - a. Date for next meeting
 - b. **Saturday March 15th the date to close for renewal of membership. Saturday the 19th is Spring Gathering. If you've submitted and gotten the ok from membership you can plant early.**
 - c. Open meeting for membership regarding communal-gardening project?
 - d. **Kirk moves to use copper fungicide on peach trees, Dennis seconded, all in favor.**
 - e. **Move to adjourn the meeting at 3:37**