

Green Acres Community Garden
General Meeting
April 22,2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Erin Nowjack.

ATTENDANCE:

President: Erin Nowjack
Vice President: Twila Goshorn on vacation
Treasurer: Noreen Butano
Secretary: Tracy Mickey
Board Member: JoAnn Bartsch

Attendance was 27 plot holders plus board members

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Erin Nowjack made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting January 28,2023, Joel Chermonte seconded it.

Noreen Butano gave the treasurers report, presently Greene Acres Garden has \$12,842.49 in the bank. Noreen discussed wish list items. She is investigating getting two new picnic tables. She has asked for a donation for our ten year anniversary from a company called U-Line. The hexagon tables from U-line cost \$900.00, it is a quality product. She has not heard back from them as of yet.

Noreen also acquired a donation from Kurtz Brothers for Super Soil. Thus far they have delivered 10 yards.

The garden wish list also includes umbrellas, solar lights for our sign and a bee bath.

JoAnn Bartsch will provide a Humming Bird Feeder for the bees.

A Broad fork was donated by Meadow Creature.

WORK GROUP UPDATES:

Construction:

Joel Chermonte discussed the beautification for the front of the garden. The pavers will be put down in 1-2 weeks depending on the weather. The city has been generous and provided the trencher and filled it in with pea gravel. The city will also refinish our parking lot free of charge, thanks to Neal Kaczmarek.

A new door, info cabinet and post maintenance will be our next projects. Presently on hold until present projects are completed.

It was also brought to our attention that there is a leak in the roof of the shed. This is being investigated to determine new roof or patch.

Communication:

Erin Nowjack is working on our current website with those on her workgroup. Erin also sends out emails to all gardeners for any meetings, updates, and news.

Garden Harvest:

Headed by Twila and John Goshorn.

Tracy Mickey discussed Adopt-A-Plot. These are small plots (2' by 1' approx.) that are used for donation. All food produced in these plots are taken to Human Services at the Broadview Hts Rec. Center for Lend a Hand. These plots are for vegetation only no flowers. These terra

cotta colored plots will be set up the second Sunday in May. A sign up sheet was provided at the meeting. Eleven Gardeners have signed up leaving four spots available.

Fundraising: Headed by Jim Tricome.

Education: Simonne Benoit discussed last year's potato growing experiment. The potatoes grown in the straw bales produced the most potatoes opposed to the ones grown in the grow bags and the store bought. She will plan a new project this year with the Girl Scouts.

Security: Sharon discussed that her group would monitor the doors and locks. They will monitor any safety issues at the garden and check for critters. They will also assist with watering plots for those on vacation.

RENEWAL RECAP:

There were 11 new plot members.
There is presently a wait list with two people.

WORK DAY, MAY 13, 2023:

An inventory of the shed will be done by Erin Nowjack and information will be stored on her laptop.

Twila and John Goshorn will experiment with cardboard to control the weeds by the shed. The cardboard will be put down and covered with wood chips.

The compost needs to be turned.

Please weed the garden not only on work days.

There is plenty of manure and leaf compost out front for everyone to use.

MISCELLANEOUS:

It was brought up to keep the wheelbarrows outside the shed.

For our 10 year anniversary a pot luck at the garden will be planned. Date to be announced.

JoAnn Bartsch will meet with new gardeners after the meeting to give useful information.

OPEN AGENDA:

JoAnn Bartsch has provided seeds for all to use for free. She stated that the soil in our beds is full of nutrients and that the only thing that really needs to be added is nitrogen. This would include substances like blood meal or urea.

The manure we have has come from a farm in Richfield.

There is no longer any HOPS available.

There is a problem with Voles in the garden plots and throughout the garden. Blood meal could potential help with this. It was also stated that planting garlic may detour the voles. Another gardener stated she had put capsaicin in her garden and felt that helped.

Noreen Butano stated to make sure you use the entry gate and not the big gate to enter the garden. Only use the large gate if you are using a wheelbarrow and need more room.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tracy Mickey- Secretary