

## COMMUNITY GARDEN NETWORK MEETING

Minutes (7:00pm Tuesday September 18, 2018)

99 Regina St. Room 308

- I. Meeting called to order by Jill B., co-chair
- II. Minutes were circulated and deferred due to lack of quorum.
- III. Visitor(s): Serg U.,, Isaiah
- IV. Business
  - a. Guest – Serg U., (WRX Blog from WRX Property Group): Blog article – local spotlight of events or features in Kitchener. Serg would like to feature community gardens. CGC members to forward any interesting information to Serg. Carol to send background description. Isaiah and Jill to send photos.
  - b. Regional libraries interested in starting a seed library. Meeting to discuss this potential resources at 9:00 am, October 5<sup>th</sup> Library HQ Boardroom - 2017 Nafziger Rd, Baden. Carol to attend.
  - c. Doon Village Community Garden – City contacted:

The Doon Village Community Centre is under going construction which has impacted the garden. The coordinator Bob states the garden is going to need a lot of help to restore it to its level that it was before. Nature has taken back a lot of the garden and weeds are now the primary plants growing. Carol contacted the city and a small budget has been set aside to help restore the garden in 2020.
  - d. Display volunteers at Kitchener in Bloom September 26. We have been invited to have a display at this event. Volunteers are needed – contact Carrie K.,if available. Eva has the display.
  - e. Derek D., wants to start a garden in Galt. He has a connection with Bridges (homeless shelter) and would like to involve at risk youth. He was connected with Paul W. @ City of Cambridge for city supports. Paul states the city's The City's Community Garden Policy only applies to city lands (parks, etc.)He points to some potential City resources to draw on such as the Grants to Groups process (small grants usually under \$5000) and other funding resources, TD Friends of the Environment Foundation grant and additionally contact the folks at Home Depot (Pinebush) for in-kind" contributions. There is no "approval" required from the City in terms of the Policy (it's on private property), Official Plan states Community Gardens are allowed in all designations. Zoning is silent on community gardens, not sure if this is an issue). He suggests they touch base with Matt Blevins, Planning (3rd floor of City Hall) just to see if there is an issue with the Shoppers Drug Mart Site Plan. They may also be able to comment on issues such as setbacks from the sidewalk for safety etc. Planning could also advise re: Property Standards by-law...and they could advise on these issues.. Connecting with your local Councillor would also be a good idea as the site is adjacent to an "entrance feature" of the City. He also recommended other community garden contacts to provide advice and support.
  - f. Community garden networking meeting is being planned December 4<sup>th</sup> 5-8 pm Stanley Park Community Centre. Volunteers are welcome to help with planning. We are meeting Wednesday Sept 19, 2018 3pm-4:30pm at 99 Regina – Room 208

- g. Grants – (School Food Gardens) Lyle S. Hallman Foundation application was not submitted. October is when we will receive confirmation for Trillium grant. If you know of other healthy children grants or grants for the CGN please let Sara, Jill or Carol know. More volunteers are needed to help write grants.
  - h. HKCC Closing Ceremonies this Thursday. Jill will speak about the school gardens for Theme 3: Choose to Boost Veggies and Fruit.
  - i. Recruitment of members for CGC. We need new members and new ideas. Send a call out to friends or other garden members.
  - j. Newsletter volunteer call-out/plans for next newsletter/content. Mike is not able to continue with the newsletter. A volunteer is needed for this role and to handle social media.
  - k. Website – retrieval of map and website content, domain, host moving, next steps. Our website has been hacked and shut down. Anthony is away but suggests we switch over to facebook. Carol shared the costs Peaceworks has quoted for repair, annual fees, security protection, etc., The issue was discussed. Some people are concerned about facebook as it presents an access issue. Jill stated Bob has offered the Seeds of Diversity site. Carol to check in re: content and PH support in staff time to shift the content over to Seeds of Diversity and donation of domain name. Jill to check in with Bob to see if he is willing to provide “outside” personnel access.
- I. Recurring business
    - a. Newsletter (TBD) – Maria’s story is being posted on another newsletter – please do not include it in ours.
    - b. Financial Report. Sara reports the bank account sits \$359.06
- II. Calendar
    - a. Next meeting Oct 16th (3<sup>rd</sup> Tues)
    - b. Location: Seeds of Diversity?
- III. Adjournment