

Grand Lakes Green Committee

Meeting Date: February 4, 2018, 1:30-3:00pm

Committee Members in Attendance: Leigh Anne Goerland, Julie Bush

+ 2 residents attended the meeting (Ivan Galindo and Teresa Huddleston)

Meeting Minutes

Old Business:

Community Garden:

The committee discussed multiple topics regarding the garden:

- Soil:
 - The committee discussed the garden soil and identified a handful of questions for the FBMG. *Action: Leigh Anne will follow up with FBMG to ask:*
 - *When should we till the compost in?*
 - *What method should we follow to take soil samples for Texas A&M AgriLife testing?*
 - *When should we sample given that our compost was put down on December 13th?*
 - *What tests are recommended specifically for a flooded garden - are bacterial tests done?*
 - Ivan will conduct the soil samples with assistance from Leigh Anne. If tilling is recommended, Leigh Anne will get a quote from IMS for the work. We would need soil tilled at least 8-10 inches deep to ensure compost is mixed with soil below.
 - Note: The 120-day planting wait period is up on April 13.
- Signs: We discussed three types of signs we foresee at the garden:
 - Bed number/markers: These signs would allow each bed to be numbered and easily referenced in rules and assigning of reserved beds. We discussed that we may want the number to be screwed into the bed edge to avoid numbers being moved/taken. We also discussed that perhaps the marker could have a place to denote if the bed is open or reserved and if reserved, by whom. *Action: Leigh Anne to research options and touch base with Denise Dibble's girl scout troop on cost/options.*
 - A garden usage sign: The sign should include the garden rules, how the garden is used (see previous minutes), refer residents to grandlakeslife.com to reserve a bed, and potentially include a disclaimer at the bottom of the sign. *Action: Teresa will send us a picture of the pool rules and see what disclaimers are present. Action: Ivan/Julie will draft sign text for distribution to other members for review.*

- Plant labels: Small signs to be placed within the beds by the jump start plants to let folks know the type of plant and possibly even how to pick.
Action: Leigh Anne to research options.
- Garden Bed Reservation: The committee discussed the garden reservation form and process.
 - The reservation form should ask for the following information: applicant name, address, phone, email, organization name (e.g. Boy Scouts Pack 444, etc. if applicable), intended usage (e.g. family gardening, girl scout troop gardening badge, etc.), what season (spring/summer OR fall/winter) and year the reservation request is for.
 - On the form we recommend that the applicant confirm that: they are a resident, they agree to follow the garden rules, and they accept the disclaimer/release liability.
 - The following information should be listed on the form: the garden rules, the disclaimer/liability release, common vegetables grown in spring/summer and fall/winter.
 - We decided to recommend a defined application window for each season and accept reservations on a first come first serve basis.
 - *Action: Ivan to send us a list of what should be planted in what season (to include on the form)*
 - *Action: Teresa will draft the application.*
- Jump Start Plants:
 - We will plan to plant in 1-2 beds. Ivan noted that we will need to take care not to mix plants that need lots of water with those that don't. Based on our 120-day timing, we estimate we will plant in May.
 - *Action: Ivan to research and put together suggested kind of plants and how many of each.* Leigh Anne will then reach out to Cecil Jones, who offered to see if Enchanted Gardens would be interested in donating any plants on our list.
- Considerations/Notes:
 - Ivan noted that the garden could use some additional gravel around the beds. He also noted that the pergola has spots where the wood looks weakened. *Action: Leigh Anne to send these issues to the Board for maintenance consideration.*
 - *Action: Leigh Anne to ask board how the waiver item in the rules from communitygarden.org should be handled. Is that needed since ½ the beds are open and anyone can work in them? Will a general disclaimer on the application form/usage sign be sufficient?*

Litter Service Project:

The committee reviewed the event check list. The litter pickup is March 3rd (8:45-11am). We discussed quantities of Gatorade/water (40/20) and snack bars (60) and ice (2-3 bags) Julie will ask HEB for - we will use 60 people as a planning number. Currently 30 are signed up. We are uncertain if we will ask Starbucks for coffee - Julie will check with Grace. *Action: Leigh Anne to send Julie the GL TX Tax ID and connect her with Grace.* Leigh Anne will post on the GL Community Forum on Facebook about two weeks before the event to try and recruit more volunteers. Leigh Anne will bring coolers for the drinks the day of. Ivan volunteered to help haul the trash to the water plant at Calico Crossing Ln at the end of the litter pickup.

Recycle Drive

The recycle drive is April 14th (noon-4pm). Leigh Anne will send the flyer to the other committee members and will submit to the Board this week.

Common Area Sprinkler Watering During/After Rain:

Time permitted only a brief discussion of this item. Ivan has reviewed the information from IMS. We will pick a date for an overview of irrigation from Ivan - the date may or may not be in conjunction with a regularly scheduled meeting.

Next Steps:

1. Action items are due at our next meeting.
2. Teresa is interested in joining the committee. *Action: Leigh Anne will send request to have her added.*

Next meeting TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15pm.