

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

Shrewsbury Community Garden Committee (SCGC)

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

Historical Society Building, 419 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702

June 13, 2016

Ms. MacNeill opened the meeting at 7:00 PM with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

Pam MacNeill

Dick Augusty

Tina Behr

Fred Preissler

Betsy Wattlely

Cathy San Filippo

Mayor Don Burden (liaison)

Absent:

Maureen Collins

Pat Pellegrino

Tom Menapace

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes. Minutes of the May meeting were reviewed and approved without changes. These minutes and all future approved minutes will be posted on Shrewsbury's website.

Correspondence. Ms. MacNeill had received no correspondence but mention was made of an orange and squishy bug on a tomato plant in plot #3 and that the Colorado beetle was sited in plot #2, again on a tomato plant.

Treasurer's Report. From Ms. Pellegrino's report we were able to ascertain that the Community Garden Trust Fund has a new balance of \$9,197.35. The amount of \$204.88 had been expended for wood chips, boxes of coffee, a new lock and hose parts. The Treasurer's report was approved without changes. Mayor Burden suggested that those who have invoices outstanding should submit them before Monday night's borough council meeting (6/20/16).

Meeting Opened to the Public. There were no members of the public in attendance. The meeting was then closed to the public.

Old Business.

- Mr. Preissler indicated that he will make the new sign from scratch.
- Mr. Augusty had applied the vinegar spray around the perimeter of the garden to kill weeds but it rained within 24 hours and made the spray ineffectual. Ms. MacNeill told of hand weeding poison ivy in this location. Mr. Augusty suggested that DPW be asked to use Weed B Gon, which kills only broad leafed plants, near the fence, Ms. MacNeill is going to contact Mr. Menapace and ask him to make the request.

New Business

- The water shut offs were discussed and members of the committee agreed that only having the lever rather than the spigot and lever presented no problems and the water shut offs will remain as they are. Mr. Augusty suggested that we replace the hoses' long wands with \$5 hand-held nozzles. Ms. Behr suggested that instructions for use of the new nozzles be emailed, put on the website and signs put up before they were put on the hoses. The members agreed and Ms. MacNeill will reprint instructions (provided by Mr. Augusty) for the use of the nozzle on the website and on laminated cards which will be near the hose setups. Mr. Augusty also suggested that we replace hoses as they fail with new ones from Sears; Sears's hoses have a lifetime guarantee. (There are still three good hoses in the shed.) The members agreed.
- Mr. Augusty did an inventory of the shed. It was suggested that we have an end-of-year clean out of the shed and maybe even gift the rain barrel, which is unused, to anyone willing to buy a raffle ticket at the Harvest Festival.
- Mr. Augusty is working on a garden revision. He requests our attendance at next month's meeting a half hour early. We will meet in the garden so that it will be easier to visualize what he has in mind.

Open Discussion.

- Weeds are growing in the paths, particularly on the north side. In an effort to avoid a work day, Ms. MacNeill will request in her email that gardeners dedicate a little time to weed when they visit the garden. She will also encourage the gardeners to use the wood chips, which we have in abundance.
- A tentative date, September 18th, was suggested for the Harvest Festival.
- Mr. Augusty and Mr. Preissler agreed to fix the wire tension on the south gate and to hang the sun shades that are in the shed.

Adjournment. A motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be on Monday, July 11th at the Historical Society at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine San Filippo
Secretary, SCGC