

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

Shrewsbury Community Garden Committee (SCGC)

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

Historical Society Building, 419 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702: Sept. 10, 2018

Present:

Pam MacNeill
Judith Reuter
Betsy Wattlely
Tom Menapace
Dick Augusty
Pat Mahon
Della Benevides
Don Burden

Absent:

Tina Behr
Gail Forrest

Ms. MacNeill opened the meeting at 11:00 with the salute to the flag. Ms. MacNeill proceeded to thank all committee members for their help in maintaining the garden. She specifically thanked Mr. Augusty for installation of the new umbrella. She also thanked members of the committee who had been involved with the PAR donations.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes. Mr. Menapace moved to approve last month's minutes and Ms. Reuter seconded the motion. All approved.

Correspondence. Ms. MacNeill informed the committee a garden member had offered to donate gardening books to the committee. Ms. MacNeill suggested that the member bring the books to the Fall Harvest Fest to offer them to the entire group but if they were not taken the gardener would have to take them home as we have no repository in which to keep books.

Treasurer's Report. Mr. Menapace reported that only one expenditure occurred in the last month, \$66.50 for the new umbrella. That brought the available trust account balance to \$10,258.94. Ms. Reuter moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Augusty seconded the motion. All approved.

Meeting Opened to the Public. The meeting was opened to the public and closed as no one was in attendance.

Old Business. The committee discussed various needs for the Fall Harvest Fest, to be held on Oct 14th from 4-6pm. It was decided that a small coffeemaker from the Historical Society Building will be used to make decaf coffee. Ms. MacNeill will approach Ms. Behr to see if she will handle this year's evites. Coolers will be provided by Mr. Burden, Mr. Menapace and the PAR. Mr. Burden will secure ice from the EMS. Ms. Reuter will provide 4 garbage cans. Mr. Menapace

moved that \$100.00 should be approved to buy supplies for the event. Ms. Reuter seconded the motion. All approved.

New Business. A lengthy discussion involved how to solve the insect problems in the garden. This year we saw a bumper crop of many pests, from flea beetles, Colorado Potato Beetles, Mexican Bean Beetles, Squash Beetles to Fall Army worms. No one solution can remediate all these pests but a suggestion was made that if gardeners could be more diligent in maintaining clean beds throughout the season the magnitude of the problem might be reduced. Ms. Mahon offered to speak to the Monmouth County Ag Extension agent to get his advice. She also suggested an application of beneficial nematodes. She will follow up meeting with the Ag agent. Ms. MacNeill agreed to send out a message to all gardeners to clean up the beds thoroughly this fall and not to leave stakes, cages and other paraphernalia in the garden over the winter.

The committee noted that there will be no more PAR donations this year.

Open Discussion. Ms. Reuter asked whether there were any new items for the next Boro newsletter. Mr. Menapace will ask Ron Neis to check for bees or yellow jackets in the gazebo and, if found, to treat before the Fall Harvest Fest. Ms. Benevides had observed that various hoses and a sprinkler had been “donated” to the garden and remained next to the shed. Ms. MacNeill agreed to remind members not to leave unwanted garden equipment near nor in the shed in her message.

Adjournment. At 11:45 am Mr. Menapace moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Reuter seconded. All approved.

Next Meeting. The next meeting of the committee will be held at the Shrewsbury Historical Society Building on Oct 8 at 11 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Betsy Wattlely