

## **Borough of Shrewsbury**

### **Shrewsbury Community Garden Committee (SCGC)**

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

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

October 10, 2016

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

#### **Present:**

Pam MacNeill

Dick Augusty

Tina Behr

Tom Menapace

Don Burden (liason)

Judith Reuter

#### **Absent:**

Betsy Wattley

Pat Pellegrino

Maureen Collins

Fred Preissler

**Officer's Statement** Ms MacNeill thanked members of the committee for their help with making the annual Harvest Fest such a success. She expressly thanked Mr. Menapace for his extensive research and follow through on the west gate project. She recognized the efforts of Ms Wattley and Ms Benevides for their participation in the PAR program and acknowledged the enormous effort involved in their commitment. Also acknowledged were Ms Behr, Mr Pellegrino & Ms Pellegrino for their enormous effort & work on the Shrewsbury Community Garden Cookbook.

**Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** Mr. Menapace made a motion to approve the minutes of the September meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms Behr with two corrections.

**Correspondence:** A grant application for \$600. was discussed. Ms MacNeill agreed to refer this matter to Ms Collins for consideration so that she could best advise the committee with regard to moving forward. The deadline for the grant application is November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ms Pellegrino was not at the meeting. Ms MacNeill said she would contact her and ask for the report in a separate mailing for the review of all members of the committee.

**Meeting Open to the Public:** There were no members of the public in attendance. Mr. Menapace made a motion to close the meeting to the public and it was seconded by Ms Behr.

**Old Business:** Felix Arauz has expressed interest in the rain barrel and will make arrangements to pick it up.

**Harvest Festival:** Ms Behr recommended that for next years Harvest Fest we need to involve more members of the garden in both set up and clean up. A sign up sheet will be used to accomplish this. Discussion about investing in 6 four foot folding tables from Costco ensued. Mayor Burden showed an example of exactly the table under discussion. Mr Augusty made a motion to purchase the tables and Ms Behr seconded the motion. Mr Menapace agreed to go to Costco and pick up the 6 tables that were approved by the committee.

**Expression of Appreciation to DPW:** Mr Menapace recommended an in person appearance of Ms MacNeill and members of the SCGC at the council meeting on Nov. 21 at 7 PM . Mr Menapace felt this would be an excellent way to express appreciation for all that DPW does to enable the garden to be so successful. Mayor Burden said he would arrange the council agenda to have this as the first item. All members of the SCGC are encouraged to attend.

**New Business:**

**Rules & Regulations:** Ms. Behr read and reviewed the rules and regulations of the SCG. Ms MacNeill reminded us that the rules and regs are flexible and can be changed. After much discussion it was decided to amend the rules to reflect that anyone can overwinter crops as long as they weed and maintain their plot . This rule as well as others will be reviewed at the November meeting.

**Wildflowers outside northern fence:** Discussion took place and several recommendations were entertained such as morning glories along the inside of the fence. Mr Menapace agreed to contact the New Jersey Turnpike Authority to learn more about their wildflowers program. Discussion was deferred pending additional information about the wildflower program and a possible grant to cover the cost.

**Open Discussion:**

**Fall Garden Clean Up:** Mr Menapace agreed to contact DPW to find out the date that water will be shut off to the garden for the season. It was determined that Nov 12th will be the Fall Garden Clean up and it is hoped that this will coincide with the water turn off date. Ms MacNeill will email all gardeners to inform them of the Fall Cleanup date.

**Speaker for Annual Meeting:** Ms MacNeill will contact Natale Siclare to ask if he would be our speaker at the meeting in January. Mayor Burden heard Mr Siclare speak to the Shrewsbury Senior Homesteaders and thought he would be an excellent candidate.

**Board Terms:** Mr Preissler, Ms Collins and Ms Behr will be asked to renew their term on the SCGC. Ms Behr has agreed to do so.

**Tips For New Gardeners:** This was discussed and a decision was made to defer discussion and make this an agenda item for our March meeting. The Tips will be distributed at the April Community Work Day.

Picnic Table: Mr Augusty & Mr Menapace agreed to brush the picnic table in the garden with linseed oil to help preserve it during the winter.

Garden Fence: Mr. Menapace agreed to contact DPW to find out the progress with application of preservative to the wood in the fence surrounding the garden.

**Adjournment:** Mr Augusty made a motion to end the meeting. It was approved by Ms Behr. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

**Next Meeting:** The next regular monthly meeting will be on 14 November 2016 at 7:00 PM at the Shrewsbury Historical Society Building.

**Respectfully Submitted,  
Judith Reuter  
Secretary, SCGC**