

BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY

Shrewsbury Community Garden Committee (SCGC)

Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

Historical Society Building, 419 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
November 11th, 2019

Present:

Pam MacNeill
Tina Behr
Pat Mahon
Della Benevides
Betsy Wattley
Stu Minis
Tom Menapace
Gail Forrest

Absent:

Judith Reuter
Kim Doran Eulner (Council Liaison)

Ms. MacNeill opened the meeting at 11:00 a.m. with the salute to the flag. Ms. MacNeill thanked Ms. Benevides for labeling and numbering the six tables which belong to the SCGC. Ms. MacNeill made a sign-up sheet which should be filled when the tables are borrowed for non-garden events. The sign-up sheet will be kept with the tables in the shed.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Ms. Wattley made a motion to approve the October 2019 minutes of the SCGC meeting and this was seconded by Ms. Behr.

Correspondence. Ms. MacNeill noted she had very little correspondence. One gardener informed her that they could not attend the upcoming community work day and asked for direction on what they could do prior to the workday. The other correspondence Ms. MacNeill received was from Ms. Eulner informing the SCGC of the upcoming Shrewsbury Homesteaders happy hour which will be held on December 5th from 5:30-8:30 pm at the Oceanport Marina. All are welcome to attend.

Treasurer's Report. Mr. Menapace noted that as of October 14th, 2019, there was a balance of \$11,384.89. There was no new income nor were there any offsets, leaving the final balance at \$11,384.89. Ms. Forrest made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and this was seconded by Mr. Minis.

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

Old Business.

-None

New Business.

-Overgrown fig tree: Ms. Forrest noted that the fig tree in the southwest corner of the garden is encroaching on plot 80, making it difficult for the gardeners to walk around their plot. Ms. MacNeill volunteered to contact Mr. Siclare to get advice on how and when to cut it back.

-Agenda/speaker for annual meeting: The committee discussed potential speakers for the annual meeting. Past as well as new speakers were proposed and the committee agreed to ask Mr. Siclare to speak at the annual meeting. Potential topics for his talk were discussed and the committee agreed that a talk on new and uncommon plants for the garden would be of interest to all attendees. Ms. MacNeill offered to contact Mr. Siclare to see if he is available and willing to give a talk. A backup candidate who works at Rutgers was suggested if Mr. Siclare is not available.

The agenda for the annual meeting was discussed. It was agreed that we would follow a format similar to last year's agenda. Mr. Minis, Mr. Menapace and Ms. Behr volunteered to help with sign-up of garden members. Ms. Benevides agreed to review the rules and regulations to determine if any changes are needed to the document.

Ms. MacNeill noted that the terms of 3 committee members are up as of January 2020. These members are Ms. Benevides, Ms. Behr and Ms. Mahon. Ms. Behr and Ms. Mahon agreed to sign up for an additional 3-year term. Ms. Benevides will inform the committee of her decision by the end of this month.

Open discussion: The upcoming community workday day which will be held on November 16th at 11 a.m. was discussed. Ms. Behr asked Ms. MacNeill to remind gardeners that their plots should be cleaned out prior to the workday unless they are overwintering. The

gardeners need to be informed that the water has been turned off and that all tools will be stored away in the shed at the end of the workday. Ms. Forrest also suggested that gardeners who cleaned out their plots early, may need to re-check their plots and weed if necessary. Ms. MacNeill agreed to communicate all this in an email a few days in advance of the workday/

Adjournment. Mr. Menapace made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11;30. This was seconded by Ms. Wattley. All approved

Next Meeting. The next meeting will be held at the Shrewsbury Historical Society Building on December 9th at 11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Forrest