

**Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes**  
**June 6, 2016, 7:37 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 205)**

- **Attendance:** Kiernan Reed, Rich Clauser, Bonnie Kaiden, Amy Acevedo, Sue Lopes
- **Minutes for 5/9/16 meeting:**
  - o Approved
- **Town Issues/Committee Issues:**
  - o All committee members want to be reappointed for another term but we need more members.
  - o We have all been spreading the word about our need for new members and we are not getting a response.
  - o Several of us have a couple of likely people in mind, will continue reaching out.
  - o Not sure if people understand that this is a serious issue for us and we cannot continue to run the garden with only four members.
  - o Bonnie will do a chair's message to the gardeners via gardenmail re: this issue – will compose a draft and committee will review.
  - o New potential member Sue attended tonight's meeting, has lots of gardens at home and is interested in joining us. Heard about Community Garden through Y.
  - o Explained application process to join the committee.
  - o We are in process of getting in contact with website administrator so we can update website.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
  - o Garden is looking good, lots of beds already started and in good shape. Paths between beds are in great shape – Charter School may have come over to do some work but we need to confirm.
  - o Compost is in good shape.
  - o Tree does not appear to have been pruned. We requested Town DPW to do it, and DPW has advised that fall is best time to do this. (DPW believes we originally requested it to be planted, but this is not true. It was there before we were.)
  - o One bed has developed a carpenter ant problem in a corner post – bed 43. Amy has advised gardener on organic control, and Rich will check it and reinforce.
  - o Gardeners are having a tough time with the shed combo lock, we will replace with a gym locker-type lock.
- **2016 Season (Renewals/New Gardeners):**
  - o Miscommunication between us and Rec has continued re: renewals.
  - o After last meeting, sign was put up at garden and we put out social media call to fill beds that were still empty.
  - o June 1 was deadline to renew, with revised regs empty beds were then available to existing gardeners.
  - o As of right now, 2 open spots, but Amy has now heard from at least 4 different people who signed up online with Rec and never heard back.
  - o Amy signed herself up online as a test, got immediate email confirmation, but never heard back from Rec re: her note on the sign-up.
  - o Rec was invited to tonight's meeting to discuss the issue, did not attend.
  - o Megan from Rec did send Amy an updated sign-up list as of today, but it has changed since Amy last viewed it. We have 3 open spots, and 4 people on Rec's waitlist who

have not yet been assigned. Amy will be contacting all 4 tomorrow, will take the first 2 who say yes.

- Bed 21 is essentially unassignable, it's the most impacted by the tree. 30 and 38 also open.
- Rec site now does not accept new signups – says “limited availability,” instructs people to call. If anyone new wants to sign up, we will have Rec send them our way.
- Only the charitable groups (St. V de P, HMEA, and Food Pantry) currently have two beds.
- **Events (Planning/Discussion):**
  - Plant sale was held Memorial Day weekend, was relatively successful.
  - We still want to plan several educational events for this season. Melanie Hamblen from Agway is interested in doing some community talks at Agway, possibility we could tag on to that. Kiernan and Amy will reach out to Mel and see if we can give her a tour of the garden, inquire if she wants to do a talk for us there.
- **New Business:**
  - None
- **Adjourn: 8:39 PM**