

Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2016, 7:32 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 205)

- **Attendance:** Kiernan Reed, Rich Clauser, Bonnie Kaiden, Amy Acevedo
- **Minutes for 4/11/16 meeting:**
 - o Approved
- **Town Issues/Committee Issues:**
 - o Val Sternadore still hasn't filed paperwork with Town to join committee
 - o Need to push to get new committee members – Kiernan will put out social media call for new members as well as new gardeners
 - o Still having some issues with Rec signup – started smoothly but now they are not notifying us when people join the waitlist. Amy discussed this with Rec and it improved but then ball was dropped again for someone else.
 - o If every potential new member is being funnelled through Rec, they need to be notifying us when this happens. Kiernan suggested scheduling a regular check-in with Rec once a week or so to check for any new signups.
 - o Organic guidelines have been reformatted and link to new revised documents has been sent to all newly signed-up gardeners.
 - o Returning gardeners have not been sent the new documents yet. Links will go out in May monthly garden update.
 - o We won't be doing paper packets for all gardeners after all since not all gardeners go into the Rec office to get them, but we will have a few for Rec to give out if needed and keep some copies in the shed.
 - o Amy still needs to contact webmaster to get static info updated for main website – rules and regs on site were uploaded in wrong format and new documents need to be uploaded to replace them. We need to get in touch with Ryan Jette to reach his friend who originally set up the site so they can update.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
 - o Amy hasn't called DPW regarding the tree. Beds affected will eventually need to be replaced, when they need replacing we will not replace them. If Town can keep tree pruned, we are probably ok to leave it there.
 - o Garden was originally designed around the tree's presence – only 3 beds are really affected. One is food pantry bed and food pantry was notified of the issue and chose to keep the bed. Of two others, one is occupied and one isn't.
 - o Kiernan suggested making vacant bed a demonstration garden for things that don't need full sun all day; Rich can maintain it and donate the produce to the food pantry.
 - o Rich still wants to send letter to town requesting removal. Bonnie suggests letting it go at least for this season, maybe reconsider off season.
 - o Amy is emailing DPW from garden email right now to ask if tree can be pruned as it is getting a little out of bounds.
- **2016 Season (Renewals/New Gardeners):**
 - o Currently have 7 beds open, possibly 5 (two have expressed interest but haven't provided us with contact info to confirm yet)
 - o We will continue putting out call for new gardeners
- **Events (Planning/Discussion):**

- Amy's husband Archie told us that all new members at bee school are required to come to an orientation meeting; we should consider doing the same. Would help set expectations for new gardeners.
- Orientation meeting TBD, possibly May 15 and/or 22, 9-10 AM, held at garden – Amy will reach out to new gardeners to notify them of proposed time and find out if anyone can't make it. We will commit to a date and time when we hear back from gardeners.
- Plant sale will be Saturday/Sunday of Memorial Day Weekend (May 28-29) – Amy will run sale on Saturday and Kiernan will run Sunday. 9 AM-12 PM both days. Kiernan will notify Franklin Matters/social media.
- **New Business:**
 - Next meeting will discuss other potential events for season
- **Adjourn: 8:48 PM**