

**Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes**  
**July 11, 2016, 7:35 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 205)**

- **Attendance:** Rich Clauser, Bonnie Kaiden, Amy Acevedo
- **Minutes for 6/6/16 meeting:**
  - o Approved
- **Town Issues/Committee Issues:**
  - o All committee members want to be reappointed for another term. Not all have been able to get sworn-in due to schedules but all intend to do so as soon as possible.
  - o Bonnie composed a chair's message and provided a draft of a proposed letter which was discussed and edits were suggested. Members present at the meeting gave go-ahead to send out through Garden Mail to all members.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
  - o Reviewed untouched beds. 30 and 49 are open. Also 15 and 48 seem untouched but are leased. If anyone contacts the garden at this point in the season interested in a bed there will be no charge
  - o Discussed necessity to communicate with people who have leased but have not tended to their beds. Rich volunteered to call individuals in order to address issues and to determine if these individuals want to continue or if they relinquish their bed.
  - o Chips have been utilized and the chip pile is low. Bonnie will contact DPW to request a new shipment of chips.
  - o Compost is in good shape.
  - o Tree will most likely be pruned in fall. No further word on this.
  - o Rich has been reinforcing beds with metal straps and exterior support posts placed in the middle of the long sides of some of the beds which most seem to need it.
  - o A budget must be proposed for repairs.
  - o Bed replacement will be a topic in the near future. Rich suggested a different type of construction that would protect support pieces from rotting. This would entail 4"x4" posts placed externally to timbers. Top of these posts would be covered by caulking that prevents moisture from entering from the top. The caulking product is stated to protect for 25 years. Pressurized (non-poisonous) lumber will be a necessity. Amy stated that a materials and cut list will need to be composed and that the committee will need to ask for a budget. It was proposed that the committee specifically discuss replacement of beds for our end of year meeting.
  - o Bonnie proposed the use of a lawn mower to maintain the areas that get overrun with grass and weeds. Rich and Amy proposed the use of mesh between beds. To test this an area (10'x10') would be done. Another idea, proposed by Amy would be Avenger weed killer, (Johnny's) a citrus oil herbicide. Should this be a viable solution, gardeners would be notified and provided MSDS. This subject is another item needing a proposed budget. Amy suggested reaching out to the national organization for ideas on different approaches to address this issue.
- **2016 Season (Renewals/New Gardeners):**
  - o None

- **Events (Planning/Discussion):**
  - Interest still in planning educational events. The people at Agway may have interest and ideas.
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- **New Business:**
  - None
- **Adjourn: 8:45 PM**