

Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2017, 7:34 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 205)

- **Attendance:** Kiernan Reed, Bonnie Kaiden, Rich Clauser, Robin Cowper
- **Minutes for 10/2/17 meeting:**
 - Approved
- **Town Issues/Committee Issues:**
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 - Annual report was submitted 9/13 to Town – thanks again to Kelly Sabini for allowing us to use her photos.
 - Kelly is willing to serve as admin for our Facebook page – public wifi blocks facebook so we can't look during meeting, but Amy confirmed with Kelly that she is up for it. Conversation as to what that will entail is ongoing.
 - Still looking for new committee members.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
 - Bed rebuild info has been sent to all gardeners and published in Franklin Matters/Facebook – not on our Facebook page yet so Amy will reach out to Kelly to get that done. All of us who use Facebook personally will help publicize as well.
 - All lumber has been delivered to site but they brought in 16-foot lengths instead of 14, so we do not have enough to rebuild all beds this season. DPW has delivered all they are going to be able to do this season – will end up doing about half of the beds.
 - Our understanding was that Town set aside enough money to complete the project this season, with specs for what we needed, so obviously something went wrong. Not sure where the disconnect has happened. Original spreadsheet submitted for Town budget specifies size and quantity of lumber (2x12x10 and 2x12x8) and how much was needed per bed. Town specified \$6,434.99 for us for all lumber, and all fasteners based on those specs. With what has been delivered, there will be a lot of waste and material was more expensive than it should have been. It is at least the right kind of lumber!
 - At this point we will need to ask Town for more money to finish the project next spring, which we were not expecting. Carlos from DPW originally told us he had money to buy all of the necessary materials, but at his last meeting with Rich he stated that he has bought all the materials he had money for this year. We need to find out what happened with the budget.
 - Can we bring Carlos or someone else from DPW to our next meeting? We will need numbers and documentation to find out what's gone wrong.
 - Original spreadsheet did go to Brutus Cantoreggi and to Carlos on March 27, 2017, so DPW has had the details of what we need since that date.
 - Town provided some fasteners and Rich told them not to buy any more because we can reuse most from the old beds. Amy still has more left from original build too.
 - Rich will be working with a friend this Saturday to bring his chop saw on site and make all the cuts necessary for build day. Kiernan's chop saw won't be needed for Build Day at this point.
 - After Rich cuts existing lumber on 10/7, we'll know exactly how many beds we can rebuild on Build Day.

- 3-4 beds have been redone already, Rich estimates enough lumber is there to redo about 10 more this year.
- Design for new beds has been distributed, since planks are going to be inside the posts we won't need as many fasteners this time.
- No local businesses have indicated that they're interested or willing to help sponsor refreshments, so those will need to be on us.
- Bonnie has had several confirmations for workers on the 15th – her husband Bruce and Kiernan's husband JP will be there as well. With a more limited scope of work we shouldn't need as many workers as previously thought.
- We will continue to be in touch with gardeners re: bed clearance since not all beds will be reconstructed this fall – Rich will mark beds designated for demolition this month
- DPW will haul away old lumber from demolished beds
- Generator will be on site for work day and build day
- Kiernan will bring painters tape so people can mark their own tools – we've asked people to bring battery powered tools, safety equipment, closed toe shoes, etc.
- Kiernan will bring pop-up tent, table, chairs for refreshments
- Donuts and coffee for morning refreshments, bottled water – Bonnie will coordinate with Kiernan's help
- Still need to obtain new exterior combo lock for shed
- Rich confirms that DPW has mowed overgrowth behind back fence. He will ask Carlos if we can spread wood chips there now that it's been mowed.
- Next year workdays need to be more strictly policed – Amy suggests dividing garden into quadrants with section leaders who can take more responsibility for their section
- **2017 Season (Renewals/New Gardeners):**
 - Couple of people have written to ask to be added to waitlist
- **Events (Planning/Discussion):**
 - Discussed above
 - Amy mentioned possibility of participating in community tent at farmer's market next season for promotions, signups, etc.
- **New Business:**
 - None
- **Adjourn: 8:40 PM**