

## **Chinquapin Organic Gardens Board Meeting August 18, 2020**

The August 18 Board meeting was held again via Zoom. Participants included: Richard Dorrier-Chair, Anne Saul-Vice Chair, Lori Hartmann-Secretary/Treasurer, Kathryn Long, Julie Le, Ed Mensh, Brad Kukuk, Elizabeth Charles, Michele Late, Tammy Boyd, Zion Bezu, Thomas and Margaret Kilfoyle, Dona Lee. Absent: Oscar Mendoza-City Parks and Recreation Liaison.

The meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

There was a motion by Ed to approve the July 21 Board meeting minutes. It was seconded by Anne, and approved unanimously.

New Board Member: Richard recommended that Brad be appointed to the Board. Brad shared that he has been a member of the Board in the past, and he has had his plot for 10 years. He started out as an advisor to the student garden, he also started the Spring Social, and he works with the lawn mower volunteers and handles the Earth Brew compost delivery. It was noted he also makes the best raspberry bars. Richard nominated Brad, seconded by Anne, vote unanimous to appoint Brad to the Board.

City Liaison Report: Oscar was out of town. Richard will ask for a written report to submit with the minutes. Anne would like an update on the parking signs as discussed at the July meeting.

August 1 monitoring session: There are 153 active plots, down from 160 in June, the date of the last monitoring session. Of these, 110 had no infractions, compared to 134 in June. Four showed no activity, compared to seven in June. One of the four has given up her plot, it will be used for the food bank since it is already planted. The others will receive letters from the city asking if they are giving up the plots. Seventeen were cited for having weedy plots, up from 5 in June, and 25 were cited for problems with paths, up from 7 in June. The next monitoring session will be Oct 17. There were three people on each team this time, may be able to have more next time as it is easy to practice social distancing while monitoring. There are at least 31 people on the gardening wait list for 2021.

Food Bank: Dona Lee gave an update on the food bank collection, which has become a weekly activity. Some contributors are taking the produce directly to the food bank. A gardener who gave up her plot had some vegetable plants that will be used for the food bank.

Volunteering: Kathryn reported that Neil has put in the plot markers. Anne reported there are 15 vacant plots that need to be covered, don't need to weed them, just cut them back if the weeds are very tall. She also reported that fewer than 50 people had no volunteer hours (128 agreed to do volunteer). There is an updated list of tasks at the kiosk by the shed. In September, she will email a list of activities.

Finances: We have \$1,251 in the bank.

Fundraising: Michelle gave an update on the Cafe Press sales. There have been 8 sales and \$68 dollars profit so far. She said we will get a payout once that reaches \$100. Ed ordered and said

the delivery was fast and he was satisfied with his purchase. It was suggested we add a calendar, maybe a t-shirt with a new design and dated each year. Michelle gave an update on the online auction. She will discuss with Brad what items he has and how to present them online. Looking at a September date: however, there is no deadline for it.

Awards: Anne will ask Kirsten Conrad to judge the gardens in late August, and an email will go out to the winners in mid-September. Perhaps Michelle can take pictures of the winning plots to put on the website. Anne will recommend we have fun and interesting awards this year. Also, every Friday the county extension office offers an online workshop.

New Business: Richard has some ideas for rejuvenating the flowering area of the Grove. He would like to transplant some plants from the upper garden area and ask Oscar for some new plants. He needs to push the volunteers to weed and water more. Elizabeth has some plants to donate, and others may also. They can send a list to Richard and he will see if there is anything he can use.

Richard suggested we give a small gift to the trash collectors, maybe in October near the end of the season. Ed suggested a gift card to Safeway. Richard will work with Davis McCoy in the city T&ES Department so they can all be rewarded, perhaps \$50 each for four people.

T&ES was contacted about road repairs along the service road and it was put on the list – hopefully for this year.

Kathryn asked if any other meeting participants were interested in becoming board members. If so, let Richard or Anne know.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Upcoming agenda:

September 22 (note date change) - Board meeting via Zoom

late August – garden awards selections

Mid September – winners notified

Late September - online auction

October 17 – monitoring session

Ongoing - Café Press sale