

Chinquapin Organic Gardens Advisory Board Meeting - March 20, 2020 – at the gardens

Attendees: Richard Dorrier, Chair; Anne Saul, Vice Chari; Lori Hartmann, Kathryn Long, Ed Mensch, Elizabeth Charlie, Mike Cunningham, Tsion Bezu, Brad Kukuk, Kirsten Conrad, Arlington/Alexandria Agriculture Extension Agent.

The meeting began at 2:00. There was a motion by Anne to approve the February minutes, seconded by Ed, unanimous.

The Chinquapin Advisory Board met at the gardens due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All participants practiced social distancing.

Oscar Mendoza sent comments: the remaining plot assignments are progressing. On Monday, the city will fix the items on the list including the retaining wall, putting a path between Marlin and Katherine Brown's co-joined plots and planting strawberry plants. The water has been turned on. Trash pick-up is on hold due to CV and the yard waste may also be on hold.

Richard noted that there is a pile of large items under the bushes by the shed – broken wheelbarrow, tools – that need to be picked up but we will wait until trash pick-up resumes on a normal schedule.

New Board nominations: must attend three meetings to be nominated, then 50% attendance. Elizabeth was nominated as a member, vote was unanimous.

New Business: Jeannie Johnson is working with Oscar (and Anne) and has assigned 22 new plots this week. There are 17 remaining open plots, nine additional persons will be contacted. There are 5 new applicants on the wait list so that should fill the remaining plots. Once all plots are assigned, an email listing volunteer opportunities will be sent out. Brad has agreed to lead the mowers. Richard will meet with four persons who have volunteered to help with the Grove.

Finances: There is \$450.02 in the bank account. Richard and Lori are now on the account, replacing Marlin and Katherine.

Spring Social: it will have to be postponed, too many people in one spot. We don't want to cancel, let's wait and see what happens in the next few weeks.

Kirsten: she is locked out of her office but she has some soil test kits. She can be reached on line and through social media.

Fundraising: Julie was not present but it was suggested that maybe we can have another restaurant fundraiser in the summer. The one at Volas raised \$179.

Earth Day – no go.

Compost delivery – Brad will arrange deliveries of Earth Brew compost for April 11. An email will be sent out to all gardeners.

Meeting ended at 2:45. Anne conducted a tour of the gardens and pointed out problems, etc. The tour ended at 3:15.