

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)
Meeting Minutes -- Annual General Membership Meeting – April 9, 2022

BOARD ATTENDEES: Kathy Jarvis, Carol Meyer, Nancy Bernstein, Sher Meyer, Anita Cordova, Chuck Davis, Frank Dayak, and Linda Kayajianian: Because of COVID-19, a Zoom meeting Option was conducted to allow Board members to attend.

GARDEN MEMBERS: Joanne Rice (K-10), Gregory Marcotte (B-15), Nancy Alperin (G-14), Douglas Budd (P-10), Doug Mullin (C-14) Annette Mataya (G-8), Amy Spence (H-7), Kasia Kajdas (A-8), Cindy Wright (A-15), Darlene Gidley (G-12), Jim Samuel (G-12), Tom Richey (K-17), Mary Sealy (A-2), Kari Scott (D-14), Olga Reyes (N-10), Jill Grenda (M-09), Evan Minkoff (L-08), Steve Turner (F-12), Rita O'Neill (K-06), Barbara Santage (M-01), Anne simoneau (F-03), Rachel Odio (N-12), Doris Davis (L-09)

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Meeting was Called to Order	Kathy J called to order	9:02 AM
Approval of Minutes	<p>Minutes off April 10, 2021 were distributed. No changes or additions were suggested by the membership.</p> <p>Motion to approve minutes - Doug Mullin Seconded by - Tom Richie</p>	Motion carried
Report of the Nominating Committee	<p>Carol announced that the 15 board positions were opened for election, and 15 people stepped up to fill all the positions. Carol then went through all the new members and described what they will do for the garden. She also pointed out all the members that have been on the board previously and the duties they conduct for the garden. All the board members have a lot of work that they do, and it probably goes unnoticed.</p> <p>Greg Marcotte stepped up into the president's role - thank you Greg! Nancy Burstein is 1st VP, also now doing membership as well as all the plumbing issues Kathy Jarvis after serving 10 years with Carol leading the march, will take a 2nd VP roll Mary Sue Omelia will continue as secretary Carol Meyer will settle into our treasurer position with her husband handling our accounting Alan Coles will continue to be the orchard manager - good work Alan with the great fruit Nancy Alpherin will be the assistant orchard manager Lonnie Brundage will continue to drive the coordination of the food bank deliveries</p>	

	<p>** if you want to deliver to the food bank as your community service, reach out to Lonnie Nina Burgeno will continue as our IT manager managing our website & cloud storage Anita Cordova will continue as our food bank manager directing the food bank plots Chuck Davis will continue as our general maintenance/fencing/approvals and most importantly lead the charge on border boards. Frank Dayak will continue as our critter control specialist, you'll see him "smokin' 'em out!" Dan Freleaux will continue to maintain the wheelbarrows and as Boy Scouts coordinator Milton Johnson will continue as the man to make sure you have water at the work parties Sher Meyer will continue as the person who keeps track of your work party hours</p> <p>Let's take notice of all these members who donate their time to help make the garden happen, without these members who step up to fill in to make the garden work, we would not have a garden, You should take the time to join in on a meeting and watch so you understand that this isn't something that just happens, it happens because WE MAKE IT HAPPEN.</p> <p>Thank you</p>	
<p>Treasurer's Report Given by Carol Meyer</p>	<p>Carol thanked Sher Meyers for serving this year as Treasurer, then proceeded to give an overview of the proposed budget including a description of Revenues and Expenditures. Because expenditures exceed revenues, the Board proposes that reserve funds be used to balance the budget. A reserve fund of nearly \$35K exceeds the Board's past vote to maintain a minimum of \$20K for an emergency or major infrastructure issue such as plumbing or roads.</p>	
<p>Approval of Budget</p>	<p>Motion to approve - Darlene Grindley Seconded by - Doug Mullin</p>	<p>Motion carried</p>
<p>New 4th District Councilperson</p>	<p>Carol talked about how the city redrew the lines for the districts and Stacy Mungo is no longer our councilperson and that Daryl Supernaw is our new councilperson as we are now in the 4th district.. He came to the garden and the introduction went well and he has interests in helping out with some of the garden concerns including dealing with the homeless people and theft we are dealing with. Carol also mentioned that there was a meeting with the city and all the other community gardens in Long Beach and how we have a plot fee of \$160 for the year, and there were other gardens that</p>	

	<p>have a \$250 plot fee for 6 months for a plot that was half the size. Carol also mentioned that she discussed with Councilperson Supernaw about the approved light for the South East corner of the garden when we have experienced a lot of break-ins into our green shed and that they are looking at putting in a solar light.</p>	
Renewal Reminder	<p>Kathy reminded everyone about the April 30th deadline to renew your garden plot, any renewals received after April 30th would be assessed a \$45 late fee, and any renewals not received by May 15th would result in a forfeiture of your plot.</p>	
May 1st Planing Deadline	<p>Carol & Kathy talked about removing all winter crops, specifically broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and Brussel Sprouts. Kale is also one that needs to be checked for aphids, as this will plague your garden with many disease problems. Then you need to get your amendment in and soil prepped and spring planting done.</p>	
Plot Vacancies & Waiting List	<p>Carol reported that there were 7 plot vacancies, and 20 people on the waiting list. We should have 100% capacity soon.</p>	
Thefts & Security Actions	<p>Carol reported that we continue to have break-ins and theft, not only from homeless people but in particular a repeat offender that it seems that the whole family is involved in illegal activities. We are basically defenseless against this, other than trying to build up our armor on the storage locks. We have a dusk to dawn policy at the garden, and part of the reason is for your own protection. Steve Turner spoke about how Coyotes are in our garden at night, and while they are a good thing in terms of keeping the rodent population under control, they are fearless of people, so if you are confronted by them it could be a dangerous situation. The same is true of any homeless people that may be engaged in illegal acts in the garden...do not try to approach them, you don't know how they will react. They may have mental disorders and if they have something in their hand, that might become a weapon.</p>	
Annual summer picnic	<p>We plan to do a summer picnic in July. Although July is a very hot month, it falls at the time when tomatoes are ripening and that has always been one of the cornerstones of the picnic. In the past we had a member that would smoke all the meat for the picnic, and sadly he is no longer with the garden. The thought of bringing in a taco truck was the leading suggestion. A pot luck would also be in addition to the taco truck.</p> <p>If you want to suggest something different, please understand that you are also offering to take charge of that idea and you will work to make that happen. We welcome all suggestions.</p>	

Items from general membership	Anita Cordova, Food Bank Manager, spoke about the people that help take care of the food bank plots. Many members do not know that we have several plots that are dedicated to growing for the food bank, and every year between what you (the gardeners) and the food bank plots supply, we contribute over 60,000 pounds of produce to the food bank. The Long Beach Mission greatly appreciates our contributions.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.	

Minutes Prepared by Doug Mullin 4-9-22