

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)
Minutes of the August 25, 2022 Board Meeting – Special Session

A Zoom meeting was conducted. ATTENDEES: Greg Marcotte, Nancy Bernstein, Kathy Jarvis, Mary Sue O’Melia, Carol Meyer, Lonnie Brundage, Nina Burgeno, Alan Coles, Anita Cordova, Chuck Davis, Frank Dayak, Dan Freleaux, and Sher Meyers.

ABSENT: Milton Johnson, and Nancy Alperin

OTHER PRESENT: Representatives from the City of Long Beach Water Department joined the meeting mid-way through. Representatives include Dean Wang, Joseph Baquerizo, Hailey Vu, and Leela Stevens.

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	Greg M. called the Zoom Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.	Call to order
Water Reclamation Project – Carol M.	<p>Carol provided a historic perspective of potential water conservation projects. Two years ago, Mr. Sterling Franklin contacted the Council Office with an offer to provide 300 rain barrels to the LBCGA for a water conservation project. More recently, Mr. Franklin has been in contact with Carol and the LB Water Department to help the LBCGA conserve water through the use of reclaimed water for the garden and would be interested in donating funds to help with a water conservation project.</p> <p>Potential benefits include conservation of water, reduced water expense (i.e., about 50% of current bill of approximately \$12,000 annually) and the LBCGA would receive its own bill on a regular basis. As part of the project, a smart system and electronic turnoff could be installed. Potable water for drinking, washing vegetables, hands and eyes could be provided with rinsing stations, the location of which would need to be determined. The current drinking fountain has a separate connection and would continue to be potable water.</p> <p>Concerns raised include increased salt content in reclaimed water, the need for multiple rinsing stations, the need to wash leafy vegetables, the need for on-going water testing and the potential cost of the project. Water pressure was also raised as a concern.</p> <p>Dean W. from the Water Dept. noted that reclaimed water is safe for crops, but it is advised to rinse vegetables with potable water; a 10% bleach wash is not required. Salt content is a valid concern, but Board members noted that adding gypsum to the soil may address this concern. Water is tested regularly but Dean will provide a more detailed schedule. Dean will provide a copy of the Annual Water Quality Report which provides a comparison of potable and reclaimed water in terms of nutrients and chemicals, along with records on past water use by the garden. Reclaimed water is quite reliable; the garden is close to the facility and there are no day of week restrictions on the use of reclaimed water. Currently, all parks and golf courses use reclaimed water.</p> <p>The City would provide engineering and replace the primary valves to the garden. Carol will contact the Parks & Recreation Dept. to determine who does work on City property and the process for getting an engineer to design and estimate the cost for work in the garden, as well as a list of reputable contractors.</p>	No action

