

**LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)**  
**Minutes of the June 5, 2023 Board Zoom Meeting**

ATTENDEES: Greg Marcotte, Nancy Bernstein, Mary Sue O'Melia, Carol Meyer, Alan Coles, Anita Cordova, Frank Dayak, Milton Johnson, Nina Burgeno, and Laura Otenti. ABSENT: Kathy Jarvis, Chuck Davis, Dan Freleaux, and Nancy Alperin. MEMBERS PRESENT: None.

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
Call to Order	Carol M. called the Zoom Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.	Call to order
Minutes of April 3, 2023 Minutes	Motion to correct the spelling of Board Member names and approve the April 3, 2023 by Milt J. and second by Mary Sue O. Motion approved.	Motion approved
Report of the President – Greg M.	<p><u>Wheelbarrow Inventory</u> – Greg M. reported that two of the older four-wheel carts, three new carts, and some wheelbarrows are missing; suspect that they were stolen. Discussion of putting locks on the four-wheel carts and the potential to discontinue purchase of these carts in the future. There are five four-wheel carts remaining, which are used by those with special needs. Decision to continue to monitor inventory of four-wheel carts.</p> <p><u>Pet Adoption Event</u> – Greg M. reported that five members have volunteered to hand out brochures at the Pet Adoption Event scheduled for Saturday, June 10, 2023. Community service hours would be credited to those who participate.</p> <p><u>Kids Club</u> – LBUUSD is offering a summer program and would like to include a few lesson plans for the TK (i.e., four- to five-year-olds) that teach about gardening. Nancy B. said she could help prepare lesson plans but would need someone who is available to teach the classes. Suggested names to teach include Susan B. and Dan W.</p>	No action
Report of the Treasurer – Carol M.	<p><u>2022-2023 Budget Status</u> – Carol M. reviewed the current fiscal year budget noting that actual revenues were closer to \$64K than the \$48K budgeted. This is due to the number of plots filled, sale of plot improvements, and payment in lieu of community service hours. On the expense side, insurance and trash collection costs have gone up and water bills continue to be erratic. It looks like reserves will not be needed this fiscal year.</p> <p><u>2023 – 2024 Budget</u> – The new fiscal year begins July 1, 2023. Motion to approve the new fiscal year budget was made by Nancy B. with a second by Milt J. Motion approved.</p> <p><u>Conversion of Tax Status to 501(c)3</u> – Laura O. reported that there is no news. We just need to be patient.</p>	<p>No action</p> <p>Motion approved</p> <p>No action</p>

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Work Party Report – Mary Sue O.	<u>Work Party Report</u> – Mary Sue O. reported that 16 people from 11 plots participated in the May work party and 12 people from 11 plots participated in June. Plots N-13, H-04 and D-06 were weeded and cleared; M-04 and P-05 are still in need of work. Work parties supported the Food Bank, flower gardens at entrance, and corners. The fence line needs to be trimmed. Carol to send out an email asking for volunteers to complete some of these and other jobs as they are identified.	No action
Food Bank Report – Anita C.	<u>Food Bank Report</u> – Anita C. reported that Q-01, -02 and -03 have been planted with tomatoes from Cal Poly; Q-05 continues prepped for planting. The summer schedule for taking donations to the food bank is M-F daily and twice a day on Sat/Sun. Four and a half days are filled, but still need volunteers. Discussion on Mission picking up food once or twice a week as an alternative. Consensus is that gardeners need to continue deliveries. Anita noted that she needs to get fish emulsion prior to close of current budget fiscal year.	No action
Orchard Report – Alan C.	<u>Orchard Report</u> – Alan C. reported that the weather is affecting the fruit trees; not enough sun. Problem with peach tree fungus and plum trees due to amount of rain. Alan is switching to organic fertilizers and nets to cover trees, which will have an impact on the budget. Also, ten sign designs with QR codes that link to lists of tree names and more information about each type of tree. Each sign is approximately \$22 so a one-time budget expense of \$300 is recommended. The cost for tree nets is estimated about \$400. Motion by Carol M. and second by Nancy B. to approve a budget authorization of \$300 for signs and \$400 for nets to be made in the current fiscal year ending June 30, 2023. Motion approved. Anita C. recognized Alan C. for the signs with QR codes. Alan C. noted that there are some excellent examples of slime molds – which are live – in the orchard.	Motion approved
Old Business: 1. Dirt Pile  2. Share Area	<u>Dirt Pile</u> – Greg M. received bids to haul the dirt pile away. The low bid is \$1,500. Motion by Alan C. to authorize \$1,500 for dirt removal and seconded by Milt J. Motion approved.  <u>Share Area</u> – Removal of the dirt makes room for a Share Area next to the road. Alan C. suggested moving the share area table to the SE corner as this would be safer if the restroom was moved away from the road. The share table would then be by the green shed and would only require that a storage container for extra toilet paper be moved. The green shed would provide some shade for the share table. This plan met with consensus.	Motion approved  No action
New Business: 1. Picnic Planning  2. Security Deposits	<u>Picnic Planning</u> – Carol M. reviewed the list of tasks with Board members volunteering. Nina B. and Chuck D. will be out of town for July 29 <sup>th</sup> event. Other garden members who volunteer would be given community service hours. In the past, about 150 people would attend the picnic. Doug M. asked if the Long Beach Model T Club could come to the picnic and display five to ten cars. Cars could be parked in either the main street or Pioneer Blvd (i.e., by the brown shed behind the orchard). The club members can decide what they want to donate.  <u>Security Deposits</u> – Doug M. brought up the option of charging a security deposit for members, which would be returned if their plot was in good condition when they relinquish their garden membership. Carol M. brought up the issue of the tracking these deposits; garden disrepair does not occur overnight and if the row monitors are doing their job, we should be able to avert garden plots which are a mess. Rows L and M need a new row monitor, which Carol M. will do for now.	No action  No action

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3. Passion Fruit Exemptions	<u>Passion Fruit Exemptions</u> – Passion fruit is on the list of banned plants. No one remembers why. Two plots have these fruit, which are not invasive. Consensus to let these two plots keep these plants as long as plants clipped and kept in control.	No action
4. Next Meeting Date	Next Meeting Date – Mary Sue O. asked if there were any objections to moving the next meeting from August 7 <sup>th</sup> to July 31 <sup>st</sup> . There were no objections and Carol said she would send out the meeting notice accordingly.	No action
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned by Carol M. at 8:09 p.m. The next meeting will be at 6:30 pm on July 31, 2023 on Zoom.	Meeting Adjourned

Prior to the June 5, 2023 Board Meeting, the Board voted via email on the following three actions, as shown below.

<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
May 3, 2023 – Waive Late Renewal Fee	Waive Late Renewal Fee – Kathy J. sent out a request from a member (i.e., Plot G-12) to waive the \$45 late fee. Motion by Laura O. and second by Nina B. to make an exception for the member based on hardship, failure to receive notice due to the wrong email, and good faith effort to comply with the rules. Motion passed.	Motion approved
May 24, 2023 – Toilet Paper Expense Authorization	Spare toilet paper is kept in a plastic bin to supplement the rolls left in the porta-potties by the servicing company. Motion by Alan C. to purchase septic tank compatible toilet paper rolls from Amazon. Second by Carol M. Motion passed.	Motion approved
July 6, 2023 – BBQ for Annual Picnic	Kathy J. reported that the firemen’s grill was not available. In the past, the firemen loaned the grill to us and we donated \$200-\$250. Motion by Kathy J. to purchase a grill from Amazon for \$460.81. Second by Carol M. The motion was passed. However, Alan C. had concerns that the item was purchased before everybody had a chance to review and comment on the motion.	Motion approved

Approved Minutes updated by Mary Sue O’Melia on August 2, 2023 following July 31<sup>st</sup> meeting comments.