

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)
Minutes of the February 5, 2024 Board Zoom Meeting

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

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order – Greg M.	Greg M. called the Zoom Meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.	Call to order
Minutes of November 27, 2023 Zoom Meeting	Motion to approve the November 27, 2023 minutes by Milton J. and second by Nancy B. Minutes approved.	Motion approved
Report of the President – Greg M.	Results of Terminations – Greg M. reported that B-18 left after receiving letter. D-04 called and told they may appeal, but they left as well. Both plots have been cleaned out.	No action
Report of the Treasurer – Carol M.	<p>State Renewal – Carol M. reported that the State Renewal was updated for \$25.</p> <p><u>Conversion of Tax Status to 501(c)3</u> – Carol M. reported that she heard back from the IRS and signed a letter. Need a subcommittee chaired by Laura O. to ensure that we meet requirements.</p> <p><u>City Infrastructure Funding for Road Repairs</u> – Carol M. reported that she and Greg M. met with the City Manager and walked the garden, showing areas for road repair and the option of a gate outside the garden for City access. Approximately \$100k is in the budget for road repairs to the garden. Our project would be combined with the Public Works Department and a larger road repair project for El Dorado Park.</p> <p><u>Current Budget Status</u> – Carol M. that the budget is doing well. The budget shows actual revenue above budget for plot upgrades and service hours. Under expenses, tax preparation has increased because there are additional reporting requirements as our revenues exceed \$50k. Border boards, extra trash dump in September, and a break in a water pipe all resulting in extra expenses. Overall, we are doing well in terms of a balanced budget. Motion by Milton J. and second by Frank D. to approve the Budget Report. Motion approved.</p> <p><u>Next Years Budget</u> – Carol M. noted that a preliminary budget had been sent to Board Members so that they may give input on line items of interest. The budget for Trash Removal needs to increase; no costs for beekeepers.</p>	<p>No action</p> <p>Follow-up action – create subcommittee</p> <p>No action</p> <p>Motion approved</p> <p>No action</p>
Report of 1 st Vice President – Nancy B.	<u>New Membership & Plot Vacancies</u> – Nancy B. reported that there are five new members since the November Board meeting. There are four new applicants and 12 available plots.	No action

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Report of Secretary – Mary Sue O.	<u>Work Party Report</u> – Mary Sue O. reported that the January work party had 18 people from 15 plots. The February work party had 14 people from 12 plots. Work party activities in February included work in the food bank plots, the butterfly garden, and other vacant plots. About 100 plots need hours in the next two (i.e., March and April) work parties.	No action
Food Bank Report – Anita C.	<u>Food Bank Report</u> – Anita C. reported that there has been a large winter harvest of chard, kale, and rutabagas. Three food bank volunteers are doing a fabulous job. There are seven volunteers to for foodbank deliveries. The aim is to increase volunteers for foodbank deliveries to nine in the summer.	Follow-up action – more volunteers
Orchard Report – Alan C.	<u>Orchard Report</u> – Alan C. reported that there is an oriental fruit fly quarantine in the Redlands area of San Bernardino County. Alan has asked for empty water bottles to make into traps to monitor and keep from spreading if an infestation comes to the area. If this happens, fruit needs to be picked and disposed.	Follow-up action – monitor for fruit flies
<p>Old Business:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Beekeepers Update 2. Dropbox Account 	<p><u>Beekeepers Update</u> – Carol M. reported that Greg and Carol met with Ray from LA Beekeepers, who will be our primary contact. A chain fence with door and lock were installed in plot Q-07, in which the bee box will be placed after the rain. A second box, if needed, will be added later. The fence will be covered with green cloth. Bee swarms in the northwest area will be monitored for two to three weeks and a swarm box added there if necessary. Classes will start in March or April. The community may be invited to participate in a class later. This will help to meet the 501(c)3 requirements.</p> <p><u>Dropbox Account</u> – Nina B. reported that the lbcga. orchard email account has been assigned the Dropbox password.</p>	<p>Follow-up action – schedule classes; monitor northwest swarms</p> <p>No action</p>
<p>New Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Bank Frame Replacement 2. 2024-25 Board Nominations Form and Chair of Nominating Committee 	<p><u>Food Bank Frame Replacement</u> – Alan C. reported that ant barriers could not be installed because of termite damage. A couple of pieces of wood need to be replaced. Chuck C. and Dan F. to investigate replacement.</p> <p><u>2024-25 Board Nominations and Chair of Nominating Committee</u> – Carol M. will provide the Board Nomination Form. Members will need to vote by ballot if more than one person is nominated for any one position. Nina B. to Chair the Nominating Committee this year. Board Nomination Forms are distributed by email to all members.</p>	<p>Follow-up action – replace wood</p> <p>Follow-up action – distribute nominating forms</p>

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p>New Business (cont.)</p> <p>3. 2024-25 Rule Changes</p> <p>4. 2024 Renewal Documents</p> <p>5. Issues Brought by Members: a) Receipts for Food Deliveries; b) Cookbook</p>	<p><u>2024-25 Rule Changes</u> – Discussion of proposed changes regarding clarification rules for transferring garden to another person and adding outdoor carpet to restricted items.</p> <p><u>2024 Renewal Documents</u> – Suggestion to add costs for additional tag on renewal documents. Put names of helpers on form and note transferred garden to helper. Annual meeting to be held on April 6th at 10am.</p> <p><u>Receipts for Food Deliveries</u> – Anita C. asked that receipts for food deliveries be saved in case needed for our 501(c)3 requirements. Alan C. can store scanned copies in the cloud.</p> <p><u>Cookbook</u> – Anita C. reported on her review of the Cookbook and expressed the opinion that time would be better spent in educational efforts rather than the effort to republish the cookbook. The original will be stored in the small barn. One option would be to create an electronic copy and to be placed on the cloud and people who want it may print it for themselves.</p>	<p>No action</p> <p>Follow-up action – make changes and distribute forms</p> <p>Follow-up action – save receipts</p> <p>No action</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Motion to adjourn at 7:48 pm by Alan C. and second by Nancy B. Motion approved.</p>	<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>

Draft Minutes prepared by Mary Sue O'Melia and distributed to Board Members on May 30, 2024.