

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)
Minutes of the April 6, 2024 General Meeting

BOARD MEMBER ATTENDEES: Greg Marcotte, Nancy Bernstein, Douglas Budd, Mary Sue O'Melia, Bruce Lissak, Alan Coles, Anita Cordova, Dan Freleaux, and Doug Mullin. ABSENT BOARD MEMBERS: Carol Meyer, Chuck Davis, Frank Dayak, and Milton Johnson. MEMBERS PRESENT: Gunnar Grose (G-19), Barbara Santage (M-01), Ershelle Williams (I-16), and Nancy Alpern (G-14).

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order	Greg M. called the meeting to order at 9:45 am	Call to order
Minutes of April 1, 2023	Motion to approve the April 1, 2023 Minutes by Doug M. and second by Nancy B. Motion approved.	Motion approved
Nominating Committee Report & Introduction of Officers & Directors	<p><u>Report of Nominating Committee & Introduction of Officers and Directors for 2024/2025</u> – Greg M. thanked Nina B. for chairing the Nominating Committee. A total of 13 people applied for 15 positions. Two Director positions are vacant at this time and may be appointed by the President as volunteers become known. Greg M. made introductions as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers for the Board: Greg Marcotte, President; Nancy Bernstein, First Vice President; Douglas Budd, Second Vice President; Mary Sue O'Melia, Secretary; and Carol Meyer, Treasurer. • Directors: Bruce Lissak, Valve Management/Work Party, Alan Coles, Orchard Mgr.; Anita Cordova, Food Bank; Chuck Davis, General Maintenance; Frank Dayak, Critter Control; Dan Freleaux, Wheelbarrows/Construction; Milton Johnson, Work Party Water; and Doug Mullin, Rototilling/Plumbing Mgr. 	No action
Report of the Treasurer	<p><u>Proposed 2024/25 Budget</u> – Mary Sue O. reported for Carol M. who was absent. Budget Income proposed for the year is \$54,860; a conservative estimate as there are always vacant plots and new members, as well as revenue for plot amenities (e.g., fences). Mandatory Expenses are budgeted at \$43,987 for items such as trash and water. \$15,865 is budgeted for Discretionary Expense. The projected deficit of \$4,992 would be covered by Reserve Funds, if necessary. Currently, Reserve Funds are at \$38K. In FY 2022/23 we had a similar budget and look to be ending with a net surplus of \$823. The FY 2023/24 current year is on-going, but we expect a similar outcome. With the cushion of reserves, we do not need to raise fees, which will remain at \$160 per year. Motion by Doug M. and second by Nancy B. to approve the 2024/25 Budget. Motion approved.</p> <p><u>501(c)3 Pending IRS Approval</u> – Mary Sue O. reported for Laura O. that the IRS has our application and is in the process of reviewing. The change to 501(c)3 status allows members to receive a tax deduction for donations.</p> <p><u>City Infrastructure Proposal for Roads</u> – Greg M. reported that the City Road Construction Department has \$100K budgeted to resurface El Dorado Park and has proposed to include the Community Garden as part of that project.</p>	<p>Motion approved</p> <p>No action</p> <p>No action</p>

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Report of President – Greg M.	<p><u>Sewer Project</u> – Greg M. reported that the County Sanitation Department has a project planned for a new sewer hole and pipe. As currently planned, the County is proposing a road through the orchard which will require the removal of six trees. The A row will be impacted for four weeks during construction. Alan C. is working to get the County to consider other access options as the replacement of mature trees and other potential impacts may prove costly. We have requested a detailed plan in writing before this project begins in late June/early July 2024.</p> <p><u>Renewal Reminder</u> – Greg M. noted that Plot Renewals are due April 30th after which a \$45 late fee will be applied. Plot renewals must be completed by May 1st to avoid losing the plot. A plot renewal requires the application form, payment of fees, proof of residency and identification. Delinquent work party hours may be completed in April or paid for at a rate of \$25 per missing hour.</p> <p><u>May 1 Deadline</u> – Greg M. noted that the spring planting deadline is May 1st. Cold weather plants should be removed prior to this date. Row monitors will be reviewing progress after May 1st.</p>	<p>No action</p> <p>No action</p> <p>No action</p>
Report of 1 st Vice President – Nancy B.	<p><u>Plot Vacancies & Waiting List</u> – Nancy B. reported that there are 13 vacant plots of which ten are available for assignment today. There have been 30 new members in the past year with seven of these members joining the garden since February. We are only getting 1-2 per week in the prime planting season. Gardeners have left post-pandemic so if you know of anyone, please encourage them to pay the \$10 fee and add their name to the wait list on our website. One option is for two individuals to partner and share responsibility for the plot assigned.</p>	No action
Installation of Bee Boxes & Classes	<p><u>Installation of Bee Boxes & Classes</u> – Greg M. reported that the class for today was full at 20 people. In May, there may be two classes after the Work Party – one at 10am and a second class at 1pm. Carol M. will send out invitations to members. Bee boxes are located by the Butterfly Garden.</p>	No action
Annual Summer Picnic – July 20, 2024	<p><u>Annual Summer Picnic</u> – Greg M. reported that the annual picnic would be Saturday, July 20th. Volunteer jobs associated with the picnic will be assigned in June. The hope is that plumbing projects will be completed before then.</p>	No action
Items from General Membership	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plot I-16 – The gardener of plot I-16 is having knee surgery and has asked if there is anyone who can assist her while she recovers. Greg M. noted that she will not be given a notice during this the recovery period. 2. Gardening Class – Alan C. reported that he will be giving a new gardener class at 3pm today. 3. Wagons – Nancy B. reported that four new wagons will be purchased and stored in the large barn. Fidel will assemble. 4. Introduction of Bee Keeper – Greg M. introduced Ray from LA Beekeepers who will be the instructor for the class today at 10am. 	No action

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn by Alan C. and second by Dan M. Meeting adjourned by Greg M. at 10:08 am.	Meeting Adjourned

Draft Minutes prepared by Mary Sue O'Melia on June 25, 2024