

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)
Minutes of the September 9, 2024 Board Zoom Meeting

ATTENDEES: Greg Marcotte, Nancy Bernstein, Douglas Budd, Mary Sue O'Melia, Carol Meyer, Alan Coles, Anita Cordova, Chuck Davis, Frank Dayak, Dan Freleaux, Milton Johnson, Doug Mullin, Karyn Maag-Weigand, and Grant Perry. ABSENT: Bruce Lissak. Members: Janet Fettig.

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order – Greg M.	Greg M. called the Zoom Meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.	Call to order
Approval of Minutes	Motion by Milt J. and second by Chuck D. to approve the minutes from the June 3, 2024 and June 24, 2024 meetings with noted correction. Motion approved.	Motion approved
Report of the President – Greg M.	<p><u>Tour – YMCA Garden Summer Camp</u> – Greg M. reported that he gave a tour to approximately 30 summer campers from the YMCA.</p> <p><u>Photo Shoot – The Guidance Center LB</u> – Greg M. used his plot for a garden photo shoot of a mom and her child for a catalogue.</p> <p><u>Green Shed Break-In June 19</u> – Greg M. reported on a break-in to the green shed. There did not appear to be any damage other than broken locks nor did it appear that anything was stolen. Alan C. repaired locks.</p> <p><u>New Signage In and Outside Garden</u> – Greg M. reported that new aluminum signs have been purchased to the gate to the garden and within the garden regarding speed lime. The signs were about \$100 each and should last for five years or more.</p> <p><u>Gate Malfunction</u> – Greg M. reported that the gate was stuck around August 1st. Alan C. got the gate opened and the repair company was called and made repairs. The gate got stuck again today and Nancy B. got it working and suggested that the chain be checked. Carol M. noted that the gate opener is old and we may want to research the cost of replacement. Alan C. suggested that this item be discussed under new business.</p> <p><u>Email Address for President</u> – Greg M. noted that a new email address for the President has been established and may be directed to future presidents. It is a single point for people and organizations to contact the LBCGA for official business purposes.</p> <p><u>Introduction of New Board Member</u> – Greg M. introduced Grant Perry; a new member appointed by Greg to the LBCGA Board of Directors.</p>	Follow-Up Action – Include gate replacement on future agenda

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Report of the Treasurer – Carol M.	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u> – Carol M. reported on the budget YTD through September 2024. YTD expenses exceed revenues as annual membership dues are collected later in the fiscal year. Insurance expenses are paid. Trash collection has increased by \$250 per month even with the discount provided to non-profit organizations. Trash and water expenses will be less during the winter months. Karyn MW. had questions about postage expenses (necessary for mailing annual tags) and comments about plot upgrade revenues (\$50=\$250 per plot is a bargain compared to actual cost if built new).</p> <p><u>Picnic Report</u> – Carol M. discussed highlights from a post-picnic report that was distributed to the Board on Sunday, July 21, 2024. A total of 107 people attended from 46 plots, including five VIP guests. The garden has 300 plots with RSVPs of 64 plots. Low turnout was due to the heat. Carol created a floorplan and inventory prior to the event which was very helpful. Next year, more advertising of picnic is needed, as well as increased attendance by Board members. Anita C. thanked Carol for her report and help in organizing the picnic.</p> <p><u>New Tax Preparer</u> – Paul Payne is a CPA in Signal Hill and will prepare our tax report.</p>	No Action
Report of the First Vice President – Nancy B.	<p><u>Plot Vacancies & New Member Wait List</u> – Nancy B. reported that five new members have been through orientation since our last meeting. There is a wait list of seven people but only five plots are available. Nancy will talk to Nina and Janet regarding which plots are available from the Food Bank.</p>	Follow-Up Action – Clarify available plots
Report of the Secretary – Mary Sue O.	<p><u>Work Party Attendance</u> – Mary Sue O. reported that there were 13 attendees in July, nine in August, and 18 in September. There are three months for people to get at least two of the required four hours.</p>	No action
Food Bank Report – Anita C.	<p><u>Food Bank Report</u> – Anita C. reported that food distributions are seven days per week. The Rescue Mission had a fire in the kitchen and the building is under construction. As a result, some food is stored outside in the sun. Anita has included Christian Outreach in the food distribution program. The Los Alamitos Food Finders has been able to accept distributions on behalf of 40 organizations. Distribution has been a challenge given the abundance of harvest.</p>	No action
Orchard Report – Alan C.	<p><u>Orchard Report</u> – Alan C. reported that a new gate had been installed on the SE corner. There are some problems until the contractors are done with the project. Alan requested that when corners are cleaned during work parties, that mulch not be put in the NE corner. Need to clean avocado tree by big barn – keep walkway clear but the tree is messy at this time of year. This can be assigned by Greg M. to someone who needs light duty.</p>	Follow-Up Action – Assign light duty avocado tree clean-up
Old Business	<p><u>Website Update</u> – Carol M. reported that she has started to investigate this project but that it is expensive. Grant P. noted that his daughter does this type of work for non-profits and he will have his daughter contact Carol. If Grant's daughter does not have time, she will be able to provide the names of other qualified web designers.</p> <p><u>Road Slurry</u> – No update; part of the El Dorado Park project.</p>	Follow-Up Action – Contact Web Designer

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New Business	<p><u>Food Bank Repair</u> – Carol M. reported on repairs to the Food Bank collection area in the gazebo. The primary pole needs to be replaced, termite mitigation is required and painting. Bids were requested from three contractors. Two came to look at the project and submitted bids. One bid was by text for \$550 and a second written bid for \$4025. Chuck D. reviewed the detailed bid and spoke with HandyDan contractor. Karyn MW. Suggested that she can call Ganahl Lumber to get the name and phone number of other contractors so that we can receive more bids. Motion by Carol M. and second by Chuck D. to authorize HandyDan to proceed for \$4,025 per the written bid. Motion approved. Dan F. has questions regarding the type of lag bolts to be used and material to treat termites. Chuck will include Dan in meeting with contractor prior to start of work. The project will take approximately four days to complete. The food bank collection cages may be put on picnic tables adjacent to the gazebo during this time.</p> <p><u>Officer Info On Website</u> – Officers emails will be listed on the garden update and phone numbers on the website. Email addresses have been removed from the website as this creates problems of fraud (e.g., Kathy Jarvis in years past, Greg M. most recently). Nancy B. noted that second party verification helps prevent this type of fraud.</p> <p><u>K-16 Cover for Winter</u> – Member request to cover plot K-16 until Spring to get rid of the bind weed in the plot. Nancy B. suggested that four weeks should be sufficient time to cover the plot. Alan C. noted that covering the plot will not eliminate the weeds; the member should contact Alan about options to control weeds. Nancy will have member contact Alan to discuss options.</p>	<p>Motion approved</p> <p>Follow-Up Action – Notify contractor of bid award</p> <p>No action</p> <p>Follow-Up Action – Refer member to Alan</p>
Adjournment	Motion by Frank D. and second by Milt J. to adjourn meeting. Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.	Meeting Adjourned

Minutes prepared by Mary Sue O'Melia for distribution to the LBCGA Board on October 5, 2024 and updated on October 6, 2024 to include comments.