

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION (LBCGA)
Minutes of the October 7, 2024 Board Zoom Meeting

ATTENDEES: Greg Marcotte, Nancy Bernstein, Douglas Budd, Mary Sue O'Melia, Carol Meyer, Bruce Lissak, Alan Coles, Anita Cordova, Frank Dayak, Milton Johnson, Doug Mullin, Karyn Maag-Weigand, and Grant Perry. ABSENT: Chuck Davis and Dan Freleaux. MEMBERS: None.

SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Call to Order – Greg M.	Greg M. called the Zoom Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.	Call to order
Approval of Minutes	Motion by Milton J. and second by Nancy B. to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2024 meeting. Motion approved.	Motion approved
Report of the President – Greg M.	<u>Report Of Garden</u> – Greg M. started reminder notices with row monitors. A correction notification is issued and if the notice is not addressed, the gardener will be terminated. Eight gardeners were terminated and four are on probation – they must keep their plot clean for the entire year.	No action
Report of the Treasurer – Carol M.	<p><u>Treasurer's Report</u> – Carol M. reported on year-to-date expenses compared to revenues. The deficit to date will be reversed in February through April. In the interim, there are sufficient funds of approximately \$41k in checking and \$39k in savings. Motion by Alan C. to approve the Treasurer's Report with second by Frank D. Motion approved.</p> <p><u>T-Shirt Order</u> – Carol M. reported on a review of t-shirt inventory with Barbara S. Barbara and Diane will be selling t-shirts at the monthly work parties as well as the annual picnic. Nancy B. sells t-shirts during new gardener orientations as well. Motion by Carol M. and second by Milton J. to authorize the expenditure of \$4,884.08 for purchase of new t-shirts to be sold to members for \$20 per shirt. Motion approved. Discussion prior to approval focused on t-shirt cost to produce by type and size as well as cotton versus polyester mix of t-shirts. Price for all cotton shirts to be investigate in the future.</p>	<p>Motion approved</p> <p>Motion approved</p>
Report of the First Vice President – Nancy B.	<u>Plot Vacancies & New Member Wait List</u> – Nancy B. reported that the garden has two new members and six people on the wait list. Four plots are available and four more plots are expected by November. The annual fee of \$160 is prorated for one planting season, but a full year of four community hours is required. Community service hours are reduced to two for those who become members in January.	No action.
Report of the Secretary – Mary Sue O.	<u>Work Party Attendance</u> – Mary Sue O. reported that the October 5 th work party had 46 attendees representing 34plots. Volunteers worked in the Food Bank and gardens by the main gate as well as trimming blueberries along the west fence. Plot clean-ups include F-08, J-02, M-08, D-04, H-15, and C-09. Eight Board Members were present.	No action

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Food Bank Report – Anita C.	<p><u>Food Bank Report</u> – Anita C. reported that currently vegetables are mostly limited to eggplants and squash. We still need a volunteer for Sunday delivery to the LB Rescue Mission. Two gardeners involved with the Food Bank observed how the food we grow and donate is prepared cooked. Looking for additional locations such as Christian Outreach in north Long Beach, the YMCA Food Fair, and Food Finders in Los Alamitos. Food Finders need to send a letter to Greg M. requesting to participate. Food Finders deliver food to a number of agencies rather than cooking the food themselves. We do not donate to the LB Foodbank, which has recently received negative press. Frank D. inquired about the size of boxes required; Anita noted that the ones Frank has been providing are fine. Anita congratulated Janet and Nina on their Food Bank plots – they are fabulous.</p>	Follow-Up: Find a volunteer for Sunday deliveries
Orchard Report – Alan C.	<p><u>Orchard Report</u> – Alan C. reported that he will be gone on vacation for a few weeks. The gate was off the track recently and the belt came off the pulley, heating up the motor. Alan believes that we may want to find a different company to maintain the gate.</p>	No action
Old Business	<p><u>Status of Food Bank Repair</u> – Chuck D. to contact Handy Dan before work starts; estimated to be 30-60 days out.</p> <p><u>Road Slurry</u> – The City is still doing feasibility review to see how far \$100k can go towards slurry versus rehabilitations of roads in the LBCG. Discussed letting the City experts take a good look at our roads and tell us what they think needs to be done. Project does not include striping and stops. City has said the community gardens are responsible for their infrastructure. Alan noted that the garden is now the surface road for City access gate so we are now part of the City's infrastructure. For now, we will wait on City feasibility report and decide on action at that time.</p> <p><u>Website Update</u> – Carol M. contacted several website designers to obtain price quotes. Results came in at \$15k (verbal), \$2,100 with 30% discount, and \$200 for eight hours. Motion by Milton J. and second by Nancy B. to approve \$200 for website update by Sophia Perry. Alan C. asked to be able to meet with Sophie so that we can make updates to site ourselves in the future and so that signs in orchard point to the new website. Anita C. asked that Board Members receive training how to do certain functions so that we may highlight future Food Bank activities. Mary Sue O. suggested that the motion be amended to include an additional \$300 for meetings and training. Milton J. amended his motion and Nancy B. concurred. Motion approved to authorize \$500 to Sophia Perry for website update.</p>	<p>Follow-Up: Chuck to track start of work</p> <p>No action</p> <p>Motion approved</p>
New Business	<p><u>Nature Center Plants In Q Row</u> – Nancy B. brought up the issue of wild radish and blackberries growing through the fence between the Nature Center and Q Row. Nancy offered to work with the Nature Center to clear the area by the fence; getting a dumpster back there would be difficult given the condition of the road. Alan C. had been maintaining the fence line on the garden side until encroachment by Q row gardens. Carol proposed that the Q row plots be measured and will talk to Chuck and Mark about making sure border boards are 20'x30'. Carol M. volunteered to draft a letter to those in row Q stating that they need to keep the back fence clear of plants and tools. Fran the row monitor can follow-up to ensure compliance. Once a 3-5 foot path by the fence is cleared, Alan has volunteered to maintain the fence line.</p>	Follow-Up Action: Carol/Greg to prepare letter to Q Row

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New Business	<u>Manure Piles</u> – Manure was delivered in the NE corner. Deliveries to the other three corners has been scheduled. Manure is aged six months prior to being delivered.	No action
Adjournment	Motion by Nancy B. and second by Milton J. to adjourn meeting. Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm.	Meeting Adjourned

Minutes prepared by Mary Sue O'Melia for distribution to the LBCGA Board on November 6, 2024.