

Pine Street Community Gardens

MINUTES of Final 2014 Board Meeting

Monday October 6th, 2014 at 6 pm

In Attendance: Verena Foxx (Chair), Sarah Penfold (Treasurer), Julia Lemieux (Membership/City Coordinator), David Manzl (Webmaster), Adam Vasilevich (City Liaison), Teresa Ma (General)

The Meeting commenced at 6 pm.

2015 Board Positions

Discussion was held about Board positions for the 2015 gardening year.

Board members can be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms of two years per term. The following terms have been completed at the end of 2014:

- Verena - Chair - Year 1, Term 2 (may run for Year 2/Term 2)
- Sarah - Treasurer - Year 2, Term 1 (may run for Year 1, Term 2); or for Vice-Chair (Term 1, Year 2)
- Teresa - General - Year 1, Term 1 (running for Membership Co- Coordinator); (Year 2, Term 1)
- Adam - City Park Liaison -Year 1, Term 1 (is running for Year 2, Term 1)
- David - Webmaster - Year 2, Term 1 (not running for a second term)
- Julia - City Park Liaison -Year 1, Term 1 (not running for a second term)

Board Positions available for 2015:

- Membership Co-Coordinator: Plot allocation, assignment; record-keeping. Motion at the AGM: See motion below.
- Vice-Chair Motion at the AGM: See motion below.
Either the position of Vice-Chair or Treasurer will be available (see above, re: Sarah)
- City Parks/Community Outreach Coordinator: liaison position with community groups and work on shed programming

Parks Board Report (Adam)

Park Plan

PSCG collaboration with the new (Parks Board) City Park at 6/Fir Streets, including:

- the building by members, of 12 large bed frames, to be divided into two each;
- creating gravel paths along the curbside adjacent to the new beds;
- filling the space between the plots with mulch;
- creating a space to relocate the bee hives;
- building a compost station behind the shed.

Grant Application: Neighborhood Matching Fund

An application was made and submitted this week. Thanks to Scott and Karla for their support in the writing of it, and to Lulla and Karen for their offer to help as well.

The grant is a proposal for the (community) painting of a mural on the new shed in the city park adjacent to the west side of the gardens. The PSCG commitment to this project is about \$1300. Successful applicants will be notified at the end of November.

Adam and Teresa left the meeting at 6:45.

Chair Report (Verena)

- A significant amount of time was spent this year, interfacing with the CP Rail issue, including attending advocacy group meetings, media communications, and member communications. The shed and signs were moved off CP designated land; many members moved their plots back to the 14 feet (from the 6th avenue curb) that is city-licensed land, resulting in loss of some plots and reductions in others.
- Four Clean-ups were held so far, and the fifth is coming up October 26 (Sunday), at which time the main goal is to build the plots at the new park.
- A discussion was held about moving the water line; this was tabled until it becomes an issue. At that time, members will be notified and asked to come out and help.
- An SGM was held on Sunday September 14, to discuss and vote on a re-allocation process of plots lost due to the CP Rail issue, the building of these plots and the associated costs, both to members and PSCG. Minutes of SGM posted on PSCG website.

Treasurer Report (Sarah)

2015 expenses were ca \$1500 and included:

- two soil drops
- garbage (mostly left by neighbours) removal
- new weed whacker
- tool sharpening

PSCG did not receive a grant this year. Year-end balance is ca \$800. A formal 2014 Financial Statement will be submitted at the 2015 AGM.

Membership Report (Julia/Teresa)

Carly vacated this position during the summer, and Julia, with support from Teresa, took on this task for the balance of the 2014 season. Thanks to both members for taking this complex role on this year, especially around all the CP rail and the reallocation of plots issues.

- Members not in compliance with Membership Guidelines for the past 2 years did not have their plots renewed this year;
- Members not in compliance with Membership Guidelines for 2014 received a warning in early September and will receive further notice of non-renewal following the last work party, should requirements still not be met.
- 18 new plot members joined this year
- about 16 members will be reallocated due to the CP Rail issue
- total plots: 92

- wait-list:128

Membership files are updated and in excellent condition (thx Julia)

Park Coordinator Report (Adam)

This was covered in Adam's report (see above).

Webmaster Report (David)

- one of the two large PSCG signs was relocated firmly onto City licensed land; the three green signs were removed, and at least one of them will be re-posted at the October clean-up, adjacent to the new city park.
- webmaster reported regular updates are ongoing, and as a result of our great website, other adjacent community gardens updated their sites as well

David has volunteered to keep the website up-to-date.

Thanks to David for his work in updating the website and maintaining it!

2015 PSCG Goals

- Tracking use of the hits/uses of the website
- Numbering all the plots for easier identification
- Creating a new map of the garden plots
- Compiling a new gardener handbook/welcome package
- Revising/updating bylaws
- Revising the protocols around the wait-list so that it is less time-consuming (ie similar to Cypress)
- Building additional community partnerships

Motions for the 2015 AGM

- *To create the following new board positions:
Vice-Chair, which will include secretary/administrative duties, and will assume moving into Chair role;
Membership Co-Cordinator/Greeter, which will include meeting new members at garden plots and support them in getting started, and supporting the administrative duties of this role.*
- *To enable members to take on ca 8-10 hourly equivalent commitments per season that can include garden clean-ups or the contribution of an interest/skill that supports the PSCG goals.*
- *To increase fees by \$5.00 for the 2015 season to support extraordinary opportunities as a result of the liaison with the city park, including stocking a new tool shed.*

The meeting adjourned at 8 pm.