

**Pine Street Community Gardens**  
Annual General Meeting  
MINUTES  
Sunday February 24 at noon  
Kitsilano Community Centre 2690 Larch Street, Vancouver BC

A quorum of ten members was reached at 12:05 pm, at which time the meeting began. A total of 15 members attended the AGM. Thanks to those who did!

**Sharing Garden Success Stories**

Members shared success stories including successful kale (lots), heirloom tomatoes, two types of hops (including a small run of beer) and generally a good growing season.

**Director's Report**

Verena Foxx (Chair) reported that, as per the September 26, 2012 PSCG Minutes, the following was completed in 2012:

- two garden signs were created and posted; one each at Burrard and Pine Streets
- the membership list was completely overhauled and updated with current emails and plot number listings
- an updated diagram of the gardens was created and posted in the shed
- a good quality grass whacker was purchased and is stored in the shed, with an older version
- the 2011 issue of cars parking in the garden was dealt with by embedding posts at the Pine Street entrances to both east and west gardens
- the grant proposal was completed
- new rakes and tools were purchased for the October clean-up

**Financial Report (Ruth Chau, Treasurer)**

Ruth submitted the 2012 Financial Statements and reported that there was a \$2200 income from 2012 membership fees, plus \$300 grant balance from CoV (for shed + signage), which left a \$2450.67 balance. After expenses there was a (\$20.29) balance. Current account balance to carry forward is \$2352.03. Total asset carry forward (including VanCity membership shares) \$2,500.08. The PSCG goal is to carry a \$2500 forward each fiscal year.

**City of Vancouver updates (Adam Vasilevich)**

Adam discussed the City of Vancouver Open House to inform the community about the upcoming city park at 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Fir Street. Lane, Verena and other PSCG members also dropped in on the Open House.

Adam discussed the TimeLine for the garden: the design phase is scheduled to be completed by the end of May; breaking ground will take place in November.

The adjoining garden plots to the upcoming park will not be affected during the 2013 season.

Adam will set up a meeting with the City planners, to further discuss the relationship with the park and the PSCG community. A time and place will be posted by email, for any gardeners who would like to attend the meeting. Others are encouraged to send their thoughts to Adam in the next two weeks.

Adam will contact the garden's Beekeeper to discuss the best location of the bee box, given the upcoming park development.

**Member Guidelines Enforcement: Gardens over water lines**

All seven garden plot owners, whose plots have encroached over the water line, have been amply notified and informed that by March 31, this issue is to be resolved to the extent that the gardens are not to be on the water line.

In that matter, all gardeners are reminded that the PSC Gardens are technically to extend only 20 feet from the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue curb, which is the extent of the City of Vancouver property. The water lines are at the edge of the city property line, and hence delineate the edge of the City property. Gardeners who extend their gardens beyond the 20 foot guideline, are doing so on non-city property.

Gardeners are also reminded to annually review the PSCG Membership Guidelines and the PSCG Society Constitution (both posted on the PSCG website), and to adhere to them.

**Garden Fees: Increase and Due Dates**

Motion (Verena/Mark): To increase membership fees to \$30 from \$25, to support purchase of garden tools and other communal equipment.

Discussion about increase to: purchase more tools and to sharpen existing ones; for new soil and compost; soaker hoses in the two common area gardens; additional signage to inform visitors to the garden about the intent of the garden (see below).

2013 fees are due and payable to PSCG by March 31, 2013. The 2013 PSCG address is:

#207-1977 Stephens Street, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4M7.

This will also be posted on the website.

**Member Updates (Carly Burton, Membership Coordinator)**

Carly reported that there are a total of 92 plots.

Currently 8 members are not returning.

There are 165 people on the waiting list; some have been on it as long as 3 years.

**2013 PSCG Goals**

The meeting adopted the following goals for the 2013 year:

- Make tools accessible to both sides of the garden
- Create signs that inform the public that the gardens are member-funded, as is the produce member-grown. Create an awareness that the gardens are to be enjoyed, used and respected.
- More active member participation and taking ownership of the roles and responsibilities of being a Community Garden member.

**Garden Clean-Up/Work Party Dates**

A comprehensive discussion was held about how to involve and engage more than the 40% of the members who regularly showed up for communal

clean-ups during 2012. With a waiting list of 165 people, the meeting discussed the importance of having engaged members on board, and writing to those who are lagging in their community commitment.

One member (Sharon Hann) has suggested creating a Google Job Board, for members to sign in and track their communal work. The Board thanks Sharon for this idea and will communicate with her about moving forward with this idea (thanks).

The meeting further came up with the idea of also having a weeknight option to the Sunday afternoon times, in an effort to work with different schedules and summer commitments.

#### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

The first date Communal Clean-Up will take place on either Sunday April 7 from 11 am-1pm, with an alternate date of Monday April 8 from 6-8 pm.

Subsequent dates will be posted following the first Board Meeting.

Gardeners are reminded that at the Communal Work Parties, members are expected to work on communal projects for at least one hour.

A list of tasks will be posted in the shed, and members will be asked to sign their name and plot number beside the tasks that are completed.

#### **2013 Board Elections**

Verena Foxx (Chair; year two of a 2-year term)

Carly Burton (Membership Co-ordinator; year two of a 2-year term)

Sarah Penfold (Treasurer; year one of a 2-year term)

David Manzl (Webmaster; year one of a 2-year term)

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:50pm

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO GENEROUSLY BROUGHT SNACKS TO THE AGM