

Pine Street Community Gardens
Annual General Meeting
MINUTES
Sunday February 22 at noon
1077 Great Northern Way (MEC), Vancouver BC

A quorum of ten members was reached at 12:05 pm, at which time the meeting began. A total of 11 members attended the AGM. Thanks to those who did!

Minutes of 2014 AGM adopted (Joe/David) and passed.

Agenda for 2015 AGM adopted (Teresa/David) and passed.

Sharing Garden Success Stories

Members shared success stories including harvesting of great raspberries and hops. Members were glad to have kept their plots all season, despite the CP Rail/City of Vancouver dispute.

Chair's Report (Verena Foxx, Chair)

Verena Foxx reported that, as per the October 6th final Board meeting, the following was completed in 2014:

- a significant amount of time was spent interfacing with the CP Rail issue, including attending advocacy group meetings, conducting media interviews/communications, and addressing membership concerns as a result
- The shed and PSCG signs were moved off the CP designated lands
- Many member plots were pulled back to the 14 feet (from the 6th avenue curb) that is city-licensed land, and resulting in the reduction of size of some plots, and loss of others
- 5 clean-ups were held; the last of which was called to build new plots at the park side
- 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 September 14 (21 members in attendance), 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 the PSCG. Minutes of the meeting posted on the website.

Financial/Treasurer's Report (Sarah Penfold, Treasurer)

Sarah Penfold presented the 2014 Financial Statements and reported that there was a \$2408.30 balance. PSCG did not receive a grant this year.

The PSCG goal is to carry ca \$2000 forward each fiscal year.

In 2014 expenses included:

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

Member Updates (Julia Lemieux, Member Coordinator)

David Manzl reported on behalf of Julia, who was not able to attend the meeting. Currently 8 members are not returning.

- Membership fees are due March 31. Member forms and mailing address will be posted on the website in March.
- Members not in compliance with Membership Guidelines for the past 2 years did not have their plots renewed in 2014
- Members not in compliance with Membership Guidelines for 2014 received a warning in early September and received further notice of non-renewal following the final work party in October
- 146 on the waitlist
- new members in 2014: 18
- total plots in garden: 92
- new plots in park area: 20+
- members reallocated to park: ca 16
- members joining the park plots will pay a fee of \$65 in addition to their annual membership fee, to cover 50% of the cost of construction of the new plots, as per the SGM motion

Motion: To create a new wait-list each year. (Sarah/Teresa) Unanimous

A discussion was held on creating a new wait-list each year, to cut down on administrative board and waiting time for new plots. New wait-list guidelines will be posted on the website.

Motion: Members are required to take on a minimum of 12 hours of community work per calendar year. (Joe/Jeffrey) Unanimous

Members are encouraged to read the Member Guidelines that are posted on the website, and that each member is required to read and sign when paying their annual member dues. Guidelines will also be posted in each of the two sheds by March 31.

Motion: 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. New fees for 2015 will then be \$35/plot. (Jeffrey/Teresa)

Unanimous

Park Liaison Report (Adam Vasilevich, City/Park Coordinator)

Adam reported that

- the City and PSCG have a 5-year agreement for PSCG to manage 1/3 of the park

- 10 new boxes were built on the boulevard and are licensed by the City; they are half completed, with wood chips and compost, and will be divided into two to create 20 new plots for PSCG members
- PSCG will also have plots for community groups inside the park
- Sub-committees to be formed to work on various park projects
- A \$4000 grant was given for an artist-project to paint the exterior of the shed; currently there is a call out for artists; Verena/Adam will represent PSCG in the selection process
- 2 PSCG members have volunteered to take on the interior design of the shed; Sarah is working on getting a grant from Home Depot to support this project
- Markus, the bee keeper will return with his bees, in a designated area of the park near the shed; possibly a second beekeeper as well

2015 PSCG Goals

The meeting adopted the following goals for the 2015 year:

- Track the hits on the website
- Number plots for easier identification
- Create a new map of the gardens plots
- Compile a gardener handbook/welcome package
- Review bylaws/update as needed
- Build additional community partnerships

Garden Clean-Up/Work Party Dates: PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR MONTHLY WORK PARTY DATES AND TIMES

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Sunday, March 29 is the first Work Party. All members are encouraged to attend. Bring your signed Member Forms and cheques or cash at that time.

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

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.

Election of 2015 Board Members

The following Board members have resigned from their volunteer Board positions: Verena Foxx (Chair), Julia Lemieux (Membership Coordinator), Teresa Ma (General)
They were all thanked for their time and commitment to the PSCG Board.

Motion: To create the following new board positions:

- Vice-Chair (will include secretary/admin duties such as AGM and Board meeting

minutes and sending them to webmaster to post; licence agreements, and assume moving into Chair role);

- Membership Administrator/Greeter (to track membership fee payment, maintain updated membership list that includes emails and plot numbers);
- Membership Coordinator/Greeter (will manage the annual waitlist, coordinate plot selection with new members, maintain garden map, track work party attendance/member work contributions and assign make-up work);
- Community Outreach Coordinator (formerly referred to as City Park Programmer/Community Outreach Coordinator) and now including coordination of sub-committees to manage the interior and exterior operations of the new shed in the City park.

2015 Board, as elected at the AGM:

Chair – **Sarah Penfold** (Year 1, Term 2 on the board)

Vice-Chair – **Jeffrey Staates** (Year 1, Term 1)

Treasurer – **Joe Soluri** (Year 1, Term 1)

Membership Administrator – **Jennifer Matthews** (Year 1, Term 1)

Membership Coordinator – **STILL TO BE FILLED**

City/Park Liaison – **Adam Vasilevich** (Year 2, Term 1)

Community Outreach Coordinator – **Elaine Jones** (Year 1, Term 1)

Board members can be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms of two years per term, for a maximum total of four years of consecutive board service.

Webmaster: Currently a former board position that David Manzl has agreed to continue on in as a volunteer for the 2015 season. This means exemption from Board meetings, but staying in communication with the Chair to update new information for the website.

Members are reminded to review the Membership Guidelines and Constitution on an annual basis.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:33pm

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED