

**WOODBURY COMMUNITY GARDENS ASSOCIATION  
(WCGA)**

**P. O. Box 554  
Woodbury, NJ 08096**

**Board of Trustees Meeting  
Minutes**

**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 7:00 pm Woodbury Library**

Attendees:

Amélie Harris-McGeehan, Director  
Rich McGeehan  
Karena de Virginy  
Marge de Virginy  
Sheril Billings  
Tracey Parker

The meeting began at 7:13 pm.

Amélie started the meeting by stating that the WCGA will be entering its tenth year. She then went on to explain what was to be discussed during the meeting per the agenda.

The first item on the agenda was to make a motion to elect Marge de Virginy as the new Treasurer for the WCGA. Marge then spoke a little about her work experience as an accountant. She also stated that she was thankful that the previous Treasurer, Donna Blocher, had been so thorough and meticulous in keeping the financial records of the WCGA. She explained to the Board of Trustees that Donna had kept all of the records of the organization in a very large binder. Marge summarized for the Board the contents of each section of the binder.

Marge proposed that a sincere letter be sent out to Donna Blocher from the Board thanking her for all of her hard work and dedication in maintaining all of the financial records for the WCGA.

Regarding the current by-laws, Karena mentioned that there were certain sections that needed to be updated. Amélie directed Karena to prepare the changes she wished to make and send them out to the Board for their review. A meeting was scheduled for 2/2 to discuss and subsequently approve any of the proposed changes.

The next topic of the agenda that was discussed was scheduling the new gardener sign-up, which will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 from 11am to 1pm at the Woodbury Library. Sheril Billings asked if there should be notice given to the Woodbury residents that plots are available for purchase at the garden. Amélie had several suggestions as to how to get the word out about the spring sign-up. She said that she would talk to Bob Law and Chief of Woodbury Police, Reed Merinuk, about placing a notice about the sign-up on the electronic sign at Broad Street near Cooper. Marge volunteered to make up some flyers regarding the sign-up meeting which will be put in City Hall and the Library.

The next topic was planning a “meet and greet” and as well as a garden clean-up party once most of the plots had been filled. It was decided to combine these two gatherings into one to be held on Saturday, 3/28, starting at 10 am at the garden. The idea would be to meet and introduce each other, organize, work for a while, break for lunch, and work again throughout the afternoon. Activities would include raking, shredding, weeding some plots that may need it, etc. A flyer will be sent out to everyone involved to remind them about the 3/28 gathering.

The final items on the agenda involved plans of the Executive Board for the upcoming growing season. The first issue discussed was the one involving charging fees to the gardeners who have not or could not weed for whatever the reason. It was decided that we would just communicate with a gardener who seemed to be having a problem keeping up with their plots and offer to do some work for them for a fee. Communication would be the key.

Marge brought up the second question, which was whether we could do some other kind of fund-raising during the growing season. Tracey suggested that since we are a garden club, a flower sale would be appropriate. She said we could possibly approach some local wholesalers to see if plants could be donated or even sold cheaply to us for this purpose. She also suggested we contact the gardeners to see if they know any sellers who would be interested in helping the organization with the sale. It was decided that we would pursue this idea further once the new gardeners were signed up.

Another topic was the creation of a mid-season checklist. It would be taken from the requirements of the contract. Amélie suggested that it should be ready for the meet-and-greet gathering on 3/28, to keep the gardeners aware of just what should be done as they go forward with the garden. It would be a tool to help them to know that there is a way to solve any problems they may experience. Rich will work up the checklist and present it to the gardeners.

The last item was brought up by Amélie and it involved planning visits as a group to other local community gardens. All said they were very interested. Amélie said she would work on that and it would be decided later which gardens would be feasible to visit.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:49.

Submitted by

Karena de Virginy  
Secretary