

River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center Town of River Bend • 45 Shoreline Drive • River Bend • North Carolina • 28562 • 252.638.3870

Meeting Minutes - November 1, 2021

Present: Robin Beilby, Wendy Fleming, Judi Lloyd, Barbara Maurer, Chris Organ, Dee Smith

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Maurer at 1:30 pm.

Review and approval of previous meeting minutes. All members received and reviewed the October 4, 2021 meeting minutes. **Motion:** Ms. Beilby made a motion, seconded by Ms. Fleming to approve the minutes. Unanimous.

Council Report: Ms. Maurer gave a brief report of the Town Council's actions and activities.

Financial Report: Ms. Smith gave the financial report. The garden's benefactor continues to donate the proceeds from the sale of her note cards.

Garden update: All fall crops are planted. Lettuce and some onions were replanted. Radishes and kale are ready to be harvested. Garlic is doing well. Sweet potatoes and peanuts are not ready. Beekeeper Dick Mazziotti will be relocating to Wilmington. Ms. Smith will contact Denise Kelly to see if she can take over as beekeeper. This year about ninety monarchs were successfully released. It is about half the number released last year. Spiders destroyed several chrysalises. About eighty asclepias plants will winter over in the greenhouse. Twenty Green Team students attended the most recent garden session. They cleaned up and weeded the monarch garden and organized the pots. Beds 19-26 have been rebuilt and heavily hay mulched. They will lie fallow for the next year. Beds 15-18 have been weeded. That entire area will be rototilled weekly throughout the winter and will provide the beds for next season's crops. Crops will be planted early and remain in the ground until the harvest starts to diminish. They will be pulled when they fail to thrive and before root knot nematode totally destroys the plants.

A Work Day is scheduled for Thursday, November 4. Two projects will be addressed, cleaning out the Buddy shed and spot weeding beds 19-26.

Old Business: T-shirts: Ms. Maurer distributed the price information Ms. Herbster obtained from Bender Apparel. Ms. Smith also obtained some pricing information. **Motion:** Ms. Lloyd made a motion, seconded by Ms. Beilby to purchase twenty-five cotton blend t-shirts with the Bender logo on the sleeve for the members of the Green team. A decision to purchase or sell t-shirts or polo shirts for garden volunteers was tabled until December.

New Business: Ms Smith proposed the use of solar panels for electricity to the greenhouse. Mr. Organ recommended the use of a propane furnace as an efficient way to provide heat. Ms. Smith and Mr. Organ will continue to research the use of solar power and the generator. Ms. Beilby offered to work with him.

Next meeting: **Monday**, **December 6**, **2021** at 1:30 pm in the Municipal Building.

Submitted by Barbara Maurer