



River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

Town of River Bend • 45 Shoreline Drive • River Bend • North Carolina • 28562 • 252.638.3870

Draft Meeting Minutes – January 2, 2023

Present: Robin Beilby, Jackie Herbster, Joanna Kloster, Judi Lloyd, Barbara Maurer, Chris Organ, Dee Smith, Mary Smolinski and Ann Sorocki

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm by Ms. Maurer.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: All members received and reviewed the December 5, 2022 meeting minutes. Ms. Lloyd made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Beilby. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Report: All members received a copy of the December Liaison/Council Report.

Financial Report: Ms. Lloyd presented the financial report.

Garden Update: Ms. Smith reported that the turnips and rutabagas have been harvested. Along with the turnips and rutabagas, peanuts are ready for the taking. In Ms. Kelly's absence, Ms. Smith reported that the bees are doing well and she will be taking care of the bees while Ms. Kelly will be out of town until January 15th. It has come to the attention of Ms. Smith that some of the herbs in the demonstration garden are toxic and she will be removing them. The first two sessions of the Green Team will be held at New Bern High School and will entail making bluebird houses. They will return to the garden in February, and will be planting the asclepias seeds in milk jugs for the Monarchs. Ms. Smith thanked Ms. Kloster for her participation in assisting with the Green Team. Ms. Smolinski has been researching contacts to obtain manure and hay since the current supplies of these items have been depleted or in short supply. Ms. Maurer reported that Pamlico Tree is not able to provide wood chips at the present time. Ms. Beilby reported that she will contact tree services to see if they would be able to donate wood chips.

Old Business:

Carolina Nature Coalition ("CNC") Presentation: Ms. Smolinski reported that the narrative of the presentation for the CNC meeting has been completed and will be adding photographs. The presentation will occur at the 2/28/23 meeting of the CNC. Further details will be provided in the future.

7th Garden Roundtable Workshop: This event is scheduled for 2/21/23 at 6:30 pm. Ms. Smith reported that Ms. Cheris and Mr. Minch have agreed to be speakers, and are still awaiting Ms. Williams' participation. Ms. Smolinski, Ms. Kloster and Ms. Maurer will be finalizing the flyer for circulation.

Spring Planting: Seeds have been ordered. Ms. Beilby reported that Mr. Garner has agreed for us to utilize space in his greenhouse for planting the seeds. Ms. Beilby and Ms. Smolinski have volunteered to start the planting process. Mr. Organ also reported that he can provide space in his greenhouse.

Craven County Community College (VOLT Program): Ms. Smith reported that she spoke with Mr. Schultz, and he would be having Ms. Gibson to contact Ms. Smith to arrange a tour of the garden.

New Business: None.

There being no further business, Ms. Beilby made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Ms. Smolinski. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Submitted by, Jackie Herbster, Secretary