

## River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

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

## Meeting Minutes October 2, 2023

**Present:** Wendy Fleming, Jackie Herbster, Denise Kelly, Judi Lloyd, Barbara Maurer, Chris Organ, Donna Ross and Dee Smith

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

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: All members received and reviewed the September 5, 2023 special meeting minutes. Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Smith. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Council Report:** All gardeners received Ms. Maurer's September Council Report circulated to CAC.

**Financial Report:** Ms. Lloyd presented the financial report.

**Garden Update:** Ms. Maurer reported that from 8/26/23 – 9/22/23 the garden harvested 472.2 pounds of produce (excluding herbs), with a year-to-date total of 2,208 pounds. The year-to-date total of produce donated to Interfaith Refugee Ministries totals 224.8 pounds. Volunteer hours through September 2023 total 121 hours with a year-to-date total of hours of 1,425. Ms. Herbster reported that all fall/winter vegetables have been planted except for the garlic. The second planting of yellow squash, sun golds and cucumbers are doing well, but the zucchini is not doing as well. Ms. Kelly reported that a small swarm was combined with the weak hive and are doing well. She has treated the hives for mites and were feeding them with sugar water until recently as there now is a fall flow of nectar and pollen. Ms. Smith made a motion for Ms. Kelly to try and sell the old hives that are currently not being utilized. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming, and the motion passed unanimously. Ms. Herbster reported that to date 100 Monarchs have been released. She also reported that a total of \$105 of donations were received to defray some of the costs of asclepias for the Monarchs. Thank you notes have been written.

## Old Business:

**Green Team:** Ms. Smith reported that she has met with the Green Team. There are 15 students who have signed up to participate. The first session of the Green Team is October 4<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Smith will conduct an orientation session, and have the Green Team remove the swamp sunflowers in the Butterfly Garden.

National Night Out: Ms. Fleming and Ms. Martin will set-up and attend.

Garden Work Day: A garden work day is scheduled for Saturday, October 7th at 9:00 am.

**New Business:** Ms. Maurer reported that she is in the process of pulling together expenses that the garden incurs on a yearly basis so that the garden has a clear understanding of what funds are needed to keep the garden running. Ms. Herbster suggested a gift card be purchased for our garden neighbors, Dustin and Heather, who have been cutting the grass at the garden for the past year. Ms. Lloyd made a motion to purchase a gift card in the amount of \$200. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming and the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Organ will be planting fig trees. The gardeners agreed to continue to meet on the first Monday of each month for 2024. Ms. Maurer will reserve the meeting space with the Town.

There being no further business, Ms. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Ms. Lloyd. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:13 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 6, 2023 at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Jackie Herbster, Secretary