

River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

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

Meeting Minutes - December 6, 2021

Present: Jackie Herbster, JoAnna Kloster, Judi Lloyd, Chris Organ, Dee Smith and Audrey Williams

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Smith.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: All members received and reviewed the November 1, 2021 meeting minutes. Mr. Organ requested a change to the minutes to the "New Business" section to delete "gas powered generator" to "propane furnace." Ms. Lloyd made a motion to approve the minutes with the revision and the motion was seconded by Ms. Kloster. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Report: Ms. Smith gave a brief overview of Town Council actions and activities.

Financial Report: Ms. Smith reported that we have received a generous donation. Ms. Smith also reported that the T-shirts for the Green Team has been ordered and will arrive in January.

Garden Update: The November 4, 2021 workday was very productive. The "Buddy" shed was cleaned out and organized, the fencing was removed from Rows 2 and 5 and spot weeding continued. Less Monarchs were released this year mainly due to a spider problem. The bees are doing well. Ms. Kelly has agreed to assist Ms. Smith in the upkeep and maintenance of the bees. Mr. Mazziotti will continue to assist with the bee maintenance until his departure in January 2022. Ms. Smith has had communications with Mr. Johnson of the bee keepers association regarding obtaining a new queen and drones for the second hive. Swarm lure is also being considered. A mite study was conducted on the active hive and only three mites were detected which is good news. Ms. Smith reported that the peanut and sweet potato harvest was disappointing. Approximately 12 to 20 Green Team members have been busy and assisting in fertilizing, compost maintenance, stripping the peanuts for drying and cutting back the Mexican marigolds in the Butterfly Garden. The results of the nematode test were circulated which indicates that the nematode is root knot variety. A planning meeting needs to be scheduled to discuss planting for the upcoming growing season and which rows should be utilized.

Old Business: With regard to the solar system installation, Mr. Organ prepared a handout to explain how the system will work. Ms. Smith requested that Mr. Organ and Ms. Beilby prepare a presentation for the January 2022 meeting, i.e. costs, installation, maintenance, etc. Ms. Smith recommended that T-shirts be purchased for all garden volunteers. Ms. Lloyd made a motion to purchase the T-shirts and the motion was seconded by Mr. Organ. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business: Ms. Smith requested all members to think about outreach programs and educational opportunities that can be re-established with the recent donations that the garden has received.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 3, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Jackie Herbster, Secretary