

River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

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

Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2023

Present: Robin Beilby, Jackie Herbster, Denise Kelly, Jo Anna Kloster, Judi Lloyd, Barbara Maurer, Chris Organ, Dee Smith and Ellen Serra

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 pm by Ms. Maurer.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: All members received and reviewed the January 2, 2023 meeting minutes. Ms. Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Lloyd. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Report: Mr. Castranova introduced himself to the gardeners but had to leave due to a prior commitment.

Financial Report: Ms. Lloyd presented the financial report.

Garden Update: Ms. Smith reported that kale is ready to harvest. To date, onions and garlic have been planted and are doing well. Ms. Beilby reported that she contacted three tree companies regarding a donation of wood chips; however, none of these companies have returned her call. We are still in need of manure, straw/Bermuda hay and wood chips. We may have to consider purchasing these items if we can't successfully find donations. Ms. Kelly reported that the bees are doing well. Ms. Smith reported that the last Green Team session was held at the school and birdhouses were made which will be installed on the school property. The next Green Team session is scheduled for February 15th at which time the asclepias will be planted in milk jugs. Ms. Smith also reported that a member of the Green Team prepared a presentation to the school staff regarding a composting program to recycle the fruits/veggies that aren't utilized at the school. The school has agreed to this program. Ms. Smith will work out the logistics with Ms. Smolinski. A donation of approximately 40 bricks was made to the Extension Office for its demonstration garden.

Old Business:

Carolina Nature Coalition ("CNC") Presentation: Ms. Smolinski and Ms. Kelly will meet on February 8th to finalize the presentation. The presentation will occur at the 2/28/23 meeting of the CNC.

7th Garden Roundtable Workshop: This event is scheduled for 2/21/23 at 6:30 pm. Final logistics for this event was discussed.

Spring Planting: Spring planting will begin the first week of March. Seeds and herbs have been ordered. **Craven County Community College (VOLT Program):** Ms. Smith, Ms. Lloyd and Ms. Serra met with Ms. Gibson from the VOLT Program on February 6th and provided a tour of the garden.

New Business: None.

There being no further business, Ms. Kelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Ms. Beilby. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Submitted by,

Jackie Herbster, Secretary