

River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

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

Special Meeting Minutes - August 8, 2023

Present: Robin Beilby, Wendy Fleming, Jackie Herbster, Jo Anna Kloster, Linda Martin, Barbara Maurer, Barbara Pilcher and Ellen Serra

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 June 5, 2023 meeting minutes. Ms. Beilby made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming. The motion was approved unanimously.

Council Report: All gardeners received Ms. Maurer's June and July Council Reports circulated to CAC.

Financial Report: In Ms. Lloyd absence, Ms. Herbster presented the financial report.

Garden Update: Ms. Maurer reported garden is doing great. Several varieties of tomatoes and the cucumbers have run their course. All other vegetables and fruit are being harvested. As of 8/7/23, 1388 pounds of produce have been harvested. In July, 190 hours have been logged by the gardeners with a year-to-date total of 1160 hours. In Ms. Kelly's absence, Ms. Herbster reported that the bees are doing well, and Ms. Kelly is feeding them twice a week with sugar water due to the lack of nectar. Ms. Herbster reported that no Monarch caterpillars have been collected; however, several Eastern Swallowtails have been placed in the habitat. To date, three ESTs have been released.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Election of Officers: Ms. Herbster made a motion to elect Ms. Maurer as the Chair Person. The motion was seconded by Ms. Beilby and the motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Beilby made a motion to elect Ms. Smolinski as Vice Chair Person. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming and the motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Fleming made a motion to elect Ms. Lloyd as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Ms. Beilby and the motion was approved unanimously. Ms. Beilby made a motion to elect Ms. Herbster as Secretary. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming and the motion was approved unanimously.

Green Team: A discussion was held regarding the future of the Green Team since Ms. Smith has made the decision that she will no longer be the coordinator. Currently, there are no garden volunteers willing to fill the role of coordinator. Ms. Herbster made a motion that Ms. Serra speak with Ms. Smith about her continuing to serve as the coordinator, either at RBCOG or at New Bern High School. The motion also included that if Ms. Smith is not willing to continue as the coordinator that the Green Team be dissolved until a coordinator can be found to replace Ms. Smith. The motion was seconded by Ms. Beilby and the motion was approved unanimously.

Second Summer Planting: Ms. Maurer reported that a second summer planting will be done which will include cucumbers, yellow squash, zucchini and sungolds.

Fall/Winter Planting: Ms. Maurer reported that fall/winter planting will include romaine, buttercrunch lettuce, kale, swiss chard, bok choi, radishes, turnips, rutabagas, crown broccoli, collards and cauliflower.

Fall Workshop: A discussion was held regarding a Fall workshop. The idea was circulated that Ms. Lloyd could do a presentation on cleaning and sharpening of garden tools. The workshop will be discussed further at a future meeting.

National Night Day: It was decided that RBCOG would once again participate in National Night Out on Tuesday, October 3rd, 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Ms. Maurer will contact Ms. Nobles regarding RBCOG's

participation. Ms. Martin and Ms. Fleming agreed to volunteer for this event. Further discussion will be held at the September meeting.

Garden Workday: A garden workday is scheduled for Saturday, September 23rd at 9:00 am.

Fall Projects: The following are projects to be completed in the Fall once the weather cools: (1) Replace the two remaining sides of the perimeter fencing; (2) place chicken wire around the work shed and greenhouse; and trimming/weeding around bee area.

Ms. Maurer made a motion to have a special meeting for September since the first Monday is on Labor Day. The motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming and the motion was approved unanimously. Therefore, the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 5th at 1:30 pm.

There being no further business, Ms. Beilby made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Ms. Fleming. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Jackie Herbster, Secretary