



## River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

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

### Draft Special Meeting Minutes September 5, 2023

**Present:** Wendy Fleming, Jackie Herbster, Denise Kelly, Judi Lloyd, Linda Martin and Ellen Serra

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

**Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes:** All members received and reviewed the August 8, 2023 special meeting minutes. Ms. Kelly 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 August Council Report circulated to CAC.

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

**Garden Update:** Ms. Herbster reported that as of 8/29/23, 1733 pounds of produce and 30 pounds of herbs have been harvested. In August, 144.5 hours have been logged by the gardeners with a year-to-date total of 1304 hours. Ms. Herbster reported that a second planting of tomatoes and cucumbers has been completed. Yellow squash and zucchini have also been planted. Ms. Kelly reported that the bees are doing fine, and is continuing to get them sugar water until the golden rod begins to bloom so that the bees are able to get nectar on their own. She has also placed treatments in the hives. Regarding the butterflies, Ms. Herbster reported that 220 (20 donated) Eastern Swallowtail caterpillars have been placed in the habitat, and has released 30 to date. One hundred fourteen (70 donated) Monarch caterpillars have been placed in the habitat, and has released 28 to date. The garden has spent in excess of \$240 for asclepias and parsley to feed the caterpillars. Ms. Herbster reported that the garden suffered no damage from Hurricane Idalia. Please note that if inclement weather is anticipated, the compost bins will be placed in the greenhouse.

#### Old Business:

**Green Team:** Ms. Serra reported that once Ms. Smith can resume her normal activities, she will continue the Green Team at the high school.

**Fall/Winter Planting:** Fall planting has begun with collards, cauliflower and broccoli planted on 9/5/2023. Vegetables to be planted are swiss chard, bok choy, kale, turnips, radishes, romaine and buttercrunch. This needs to occur before 9/15/2023.

**National Night Out:** Ms. Herbster reported that the Town will be providing us with a table. Ms. Herbster has purchased the table cloths, banner, and will provide dried herbs and pesto as hand-outs, and will update the fold-out presentations. Ms. Martin and Ms. Fleming will set-up and attend. If flowers are available from the garden, Ms. Serra will provide a flower arrangement.

**September Workday:** A workday is scheduled for Saturday, 9/23/2023 at 9:00 am.

**Fall Workshop:** After discussion, it was decided to consider a workshop in 2024.

**Fall Projects:** The following are projects to be completed during the Fall: Replace remaining two sides of outside fencing; install chicken wire around the work shed and greenhouse, remove yard long bean towers; remove pole bean fencing; and prepare beds for winter and those to remain dormant due to RKN.

**New Business:** None.

There being no further business, Ms. Kelly 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 2:16 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 2, 2023 at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Jackie Herbster, Secretary

DRAFT