



River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center

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

Draft Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2026

Present: Becky DeMars, Lori Gaskins, Arwen Gibson, Jackie Herbster, Judi Lloyd, Barbara Maurer, Chris Organ, Irma Robinson, 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 3/9/26 special meeting minutes. Ms. Lloyd made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Gibson. The motion was approved unanimously.

Financial Report: Ms. Lloyd presented the financial report from Friends of River Bend Community Organic Garden.

Garden Update: Ms. Maurer reported labor hours for the month of March totaled 100 and administrative hours totaled 28. Ms. Maurer reported that she received a call from the Town indicating that there was a water leak. Mr. Organ and Ms. Herbster found the leak and it has been fixed. The seeds for the tomatoes, peppers and eggplant have been planted and will be ready soon for planting. Beans, cucumbers, red noodle beans, bitter melon, cantaloupe, and watermelon will be planted by direct sow. Ms. Herbster will be purchasing the herbs for the Herb Garden. Ms. Maurer reported that the 2026 Planting Chart has been revised and posted in the work shed. Ms. Herbster reported that 7 Eastern Swallowtails have been released which were over-wintered in the habitat. Mr. Organ has fixed the screening in the habitat and Ms. Herbster reported that the over-wintered asclepias and parsley are sprouting. With regard to the Swap a Plant project, Ms. Gibson reported that some shelving has been constructed, signage has been prepared and is ready to be laminated. Workdays in April have been scheduled for the 11th at 9:30 am and 14th at 9:00 am.

Old Business:

2026 Plant Sale: The various task list items were discussed along with the assignments. More volunteers are needed to attend and assist with the sale. All baked goods should be bagged and priced accordingly. Set up for the Plant Sale is scheduled for Friday, April 24th at 4:00 pm, depending on the weather.

New Business: Ms. Maurer reported that after fiscal year 2025-2026 that the Board Secretary position needs to be filled and is seeking a volunteer to fill this position.

There being no further business, Ms. Lloyd made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Ms. Robinson. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 4, 2026 at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Jackie Herbster, Secretary