

River Bend Community Organic Garden & Education Center
Town of River Bend • 45 Shoreline Drive • River Bend • North Carolina • 28562 • 252.638.3870

Meeting Minutes August 4, 2025

Present: Lynne Couture, Becky DeMars, Arwen Gibson, Jackie Herbster, Denise Kelly, JoAnna Kloster, Barbara Maurer, and Ellen Serra

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm by Ms. Maurer.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: All members received and reviewed the 7/7/25 meeting minutes. Ms. Kloster made a motion to approve the minutes and the motion was seconded by Ms. Couture. The motion was approved unanimously.

Financial Report: In Ms. Lloyd's absence, Ms. Herbster presented the financial report from Friends of River Bend Community Organic Garden.

Garden Update: Ms. Maurer reported labor/administrative hours for the month of July totaled 177 (YTD labor/administrative hours total 908 hours) and 868 pounds of vegetables were harvested (YTD harvest total 1808 pounds). To date, the garden has donated 184 pounds of vegetables to Interfaith Refugee Ministry. Workdays for August are scheduled for the 9th and 23rd at 7:30 a.m. Ms. Herbster reported that 1 Eastern Swallowtail was released in July. She also reported that there are a lot of caterpillars in the habitat and requested all gardeners to check on the parsley on a daily basis.

Old Business:

Plant Swap: The Swap-a-Plant concept was discussed at length. It was decided to clean out the old bee area which is fenced in and build a structure and tables to display the plants. The opening for this concept will begin in March 2026, with advertising being posted on social media starting in January 2026.

Fall/Winter Planting: Garlic will be planted in October. The other Fall/Winter vegetables will include kale, collards, swiss chard, bok choy, radishes, broccoli, and lettuces. Ms. Herbster reported that she has done research regarding the purchase of winter coverings/hoop systems to protect the more vulnerable vegetables during the cold. Ms. Serra made a motion to purchase the winter coverings/hoop systems and the motion was seconded by Ms. Maurer. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business:

Vice Chair Person Vacancy: Ms. Maurer announced that Ms. Wordham gave her notice as Vice Chair Person. Ms. Herbster made a motion to nominate Ms. Serra as Vice Chair Person. The motion was seconded by Ms. DeMars and the motion passed unanimously.

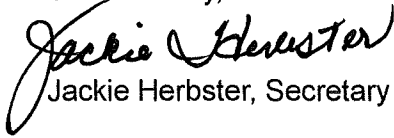
September 2025 Meeting: Since the September meeting falls on Labor Day, the gardeners agreed to hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, 9/2/2025 at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Maurer will check to see if the meeting room is available on that date.

National Night Out: The gardeners agreed to participate in National Night Out. Ms. Kloster and Ms. Maurer will revise the garden trifold for distribution. Volunteers will be needed to set-up, staff, and breakdown. This matter will be discussed further at the September meeting.

There being no further business, Ms. Gibson made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded by Ms. DeMars. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by,

Handwritten signature of Jackie Herbster in cursive script.

Jackie Herbster, Secretary