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

Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2026 – 2:30 PM
Municipal Building – 51 Shoreline Drive

Present: Becky DeMars, Lori Gaskins, Arwen Gibson, Jo Anna Kloster, Judi Lloyd, Barbara Maurer, Barbara Pilcher, Irma Robinson, and Ellen Serra

The special meeting was called to order at 2:30 by Ms. Maurer.

All members received and reviewed the 8/3/26 meeting minutes. Ms. DeMars 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 and harvest totals for August: Labor: 143 hours. Year-to-date total hours: 1,094. Total August harvest: 415 lbs. Vegetables harvested for IRM this year: 170 lbs. which is 12%. Ms. Gibson reported on the butterflies. Larger monarch caterpillars are moved to her home. When the butterflies emerge from their chrysalis they are tested for OE. Swallowtails are kept in the garden's habitat. Ms. Gibson reported that movement is happening with our Swap-a-Plant program. Ms. Serra reported she has added some plants to the B & B. Ms. Maurer reported there are multiple projects for workdays, which are back-to-back this month, on Sept 12th and Sept 19th,, starting at 7:15 a.m. Mustard greens will be used as a cover crop and to discourage nematodes. Ms. Gaskins and Ms. Kloster will research fertilizer for the fall vegetables. Ms. Gaskins will send pictures of sick plants to NCSU Ag Department.

Old Business:

NNO - The gardeners voted not to participate this year. Seed discussion: Ms. Lloyd will buy chard, kale, and mustard green seeds. Ms. Serra will purchase broccoli, bok choy, and collards. Ms. Maurer will ask Aiden to edge the garden perimeter.

New Business

Ms. Herbster will be stepping back from garden responsibilities and time at the garden.

Ms. Lloyd 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 2:40.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Oct 5, at 1:30 pm.

Submitted by, Jo Anna Kloster, Secretary Jo Anna Kloster