

**Madison Community Garden
Advisory Committee Meeting**

May 19, 2021

MINUTES

The meeting was conducted via Zoom due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and was called to order at 7:32 PM

Present: Steve McAuliffe, Sondra Clark, Geoffrey Anderson, Maureen Hoeflin, Brian Monaghan, Lynn Macagnano

Absent: Steve Stocker, Paul Schmitt, Geoffrey Thomas, Mike Barrasso, Margaret Malishchak, Ursula Leonhardt, Stephan Stocker, Maureen Byrne, Kirk Moehle, Charles Van Buskirk

Roll Call

The roll call was taken

Approval of Minutes/Agenda Review

The minutes for March 17, 2021 and April 21, 2021 were approved. They will be forwarded to Michael Pellesier, Borough Hall.

Public Comments – none

Reports from Committee

Comptroller: Lynne Macagnano reported \$210.00 garden fees received \$180.00 Bee fees. No expenses occurred. Approximately \$35,000.00 cash balance.

Subcommittees

Communications: Most of the communications were of general garden rules/food donation program/Bee yard information. Have been contacted from Madison High School with interest in a garden plot for some students.

Maintenance/Rules: Brian Monaghan had a meeting with several people who volunteered to do mowing/trimming. He reviewed our equipment, tractor use and mowers. Another meeting is scheduled for additional review and for some volunteers who could not make the earlier meeting. About 8/9 people have volunteered.

Compost: Steve reported (on Charles behalf) that we have about 4 or 5 people who have volunteered to help with the compost.

Master Gardener: The IPM report has come out – it will be published every two weeks. The garden to receive 6 tomato plants for an experiment to see if pruning tomato plants makes any difference in production. 3 plants to be pruned and 3 will not to be pruned.

The Rutgers Master plot (which the program has been suspended because of Covid this year) was planted this spring with some lettuce. The lettuce along with some other produce from the hoop house was recently harvested and donated to the food pantry - approx 109 lbs was donated.

Membership: Steve reported (on Margaret Malishchak behalf) we have 2 people on the Madison and 1 non Madison person on the wait list for plots.

Apiary: Steve McAuliffe reported that there have been 5 swarms. 2 have been recovered and three were in areas that were not able to be recovered safely. One has been kept as a resource hive and the other was given to a garden member who has hives at his home.

Ongoing business:

MRC meadow restoration: Nothing new to report on the meadow. Hoping for much needed rain. The milkweed and the bushes seem to be doing well.

Eagle Scout Project: Location of Kiosk. Two places were considered; right next to the man gate along the fence or by the raspberry plants on the Bee Yard side. Some concern about the water/electric lines near the man gate. Trying to avoid moving the raspberry plants (again). Steve to discuss with the scout.

Front Gate: Gravel has been spread. Peter Freed has donated several garden stones to be used for a path. A landscaper to be contacted to have dirt and grass seed layed down. Large flagstone to be placed on grade or above grade.

Volunteers: Great response to our request for volunteers for various jobs.

- Mowing – about 8/9 people
- Compost pile maintenance – about 5 people
- Pollinator beds need weeding and restoring – several volunteers have started and doing a great job.

Food donation Program – several volunteers have signed up for ice replenishment and delivery of food to the various food programs.

2021 Bee Club Members

Geoff	Anderson
Michael	Barrasso
Laura	Buoncuore
Lauren & Mike	Battista
Anna & Shannon	Bradshaw
Wendy and Ella	Cervi
Blair	Conley
Patricia	Coyle
Chris	Crabtree
Gene	Cracovia
Tom & Ceil	D'Alessio
Cecilia	Dilzell
Cynthia	Falco
Alexandre	Gerber
Daphne	Harnahan
Allison	Hock
Maureen	Hoeflin
Mary Ellen	Kapalo
Kirk	Moehle
Joseph	Katz
John	Kennedy
Ursula	Leonhardt
Arline	Lloyd
Lynn & Tabitha	Macagnano
Raj	Madan
Jennifer	Marquardt
Stephen	McAuliffe
Kathy	McGrath
Jeff	Merkle
Brian	Monaghan
Barbara	Narus
Alan	Sawyer
Charles	Van Buskirk
James	Van Dyke
Paul	Vazquez

Meeting was adjourned: 8:04