

# Silvana's Community Garden Committee Chair Meeting May 4, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:04PM by Dave Wilcox. Meredith Long was not able to attend but provided an outline for the meeting which was used.

**Seed Exchange/Kick Off Party.** The Evite for the Seed Exchange/Kick Off party has been sent out. It will be Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 5 -7PM with a potluck and will be held at the North Pond, Silverthorne. The volunteer signup sheet will be available. There will be plenty of seeds from America the Beautiful available as three sets had been mistakenly ordered. The extras can be used as giveaways or gifts.

**Progress on Bridge.** John Sawvell, our bridge expert stated the hard costs should be around \$2,200 start to finish. Originally he had projected the cost of materials alone to be about \$1,800 to \$2,000. The actual costs should be \$1,400 for materials and the balance in labor. Concrete should be about \$800 with timbers and decking around \$500 each. Funds could be saved if a volunteer crew is put together. The hardest part will be the concrete work and would take about a day. After that is completed, three people could complete the bridge in a day. Work could begin at any time as the plans have been approved and no permits are required. Donations will be requested from suppliers.

**Composting.** There will be three tumblers available to use in the Phase II in our composting this year. These have been loaned to SCG for the summer. The compost bins will be made better by lining them with plastic. This can be done as part of the Work Day. A committee should be formed to oversee all of the work that is required to ensure that this program works such as signage, education of the plot holders and the progress over the summer. Suggested was requiring watering and turning of the tumblers as part of the duties of each plot holder when they are doing their assigned weeding and watering week. It is felt that educating the plot holders is going to be key in making sure this program works. Annie Brewster will give a composting talk at the Seed Exchange/Kickoff Party. Emphasize that nothing but what comes from the garden should go into the compost.

**503C3 to SPA.** This will be tabled to another meeting.

**Anticipated Expenses and Revenue.** Anticipated future expenses are the purchase of possible compost, \$10 gift certificates for each presenter at an educational class, fundraising costs, event space rental, plaques showcasing businesses/individuals/organizations which contribute to SCG, garden maintenance, experimental bed coordinator fee, website hosting and constant contact costs. Revenues could come from fees from education classes, donations from plot holders from security deposits, annual plot fees, fundraising income and grants. The idea of selling at the Farmers Market does not appear to be an option. Availability and consistency of produce is a main factor.

**Water Management.** This important concept was discussed. It was proposed to have a session to train all the plot holders on the importance of proper watering. Such as what time to water, watering too much and what works efficiently for a better harvest. Ideas discussed were: holding a class on proper watering techniques, adding formal guidelines to the Bylaws, using soaker hoses or adding an irrigation system on a timer at a possible cost of \$1,200. This was very well received and it was recommended to add watering suggestions to a future newsletter.

**Social Committee.** Julie Magliocchetti will be stepping down as head of this committee after the Seed Exchange. Julie mentioned that someone from her committee may be interested in stepping forward.

**Experimental Bed Coordinator.** Kathy Taylor has stepped down from her role. This is a paid position from \$1,200 to \$1,400 for the season. One question was what SCG learns from this project and what its purpose is. The project was created through Grant money specifically designated to be used towards this concept. It was suggested to add the

information obtained from the experimental beds from last year to the SCG website for all plot holders to use. A job description will be added to the website for anyone interested in filling this position.

**Work Day.** There was a discussion about what should be done in the garden during the work day. The date of Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10AM was chosen weather permitting.

**New Business.** There was a suggestion to assign sections of the garden to be weeded per week instead of the entire area to help direct volunteers. The date to start the weeding/watering was set as Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, which is Father's Day.

An idea of a produce exchange at the garden was discussed. The idea is, if you have any extra produce is to hold a swap weekly on a Saturday morning for one hour. No money is to be exchanged just produce. Another idea is to donate any extra produce to a local food bank.

It was decided there is no need to pay for any advertising for SCG at this time. Advertising would be considered in the future if completely underwritten by donations or grants.

Michelle is working on setting up a Facebook page for SCG. This will be a great way for everyone to be a part of the community.

**Next Meeting.** The next board meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 1 2011, 6-7PM at the Silverthorne Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40PM.