

Silvana's Community Garden Committee Chair Meeting July 13, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 PM by Meredith Long.

SPA Update. Progress on the changeover is moving along. SCG needs to provide SPA with the list of deposits and fees for each plot holder along with the monthly meeting minutes and any upcoming expenses.

Bridge Update. The work on the bridge has begun with the installation of the footers completed. John Sabal, Summit Building Solutions, is in charge of the project. John will do the labor on the bridge himself for a cost of \$400. The materials needed to complete the bridge need to be approved and ordered. There was a discussion regarding what funds had been already donated towards this project. It was mentioned the Garden Club had already donated \$1,200. Meredith will confirm this.

LiveWell Grant. LiveWell Colorado is a non-profit organization committed to reducing obesity in Colorado by promoting healthy eating and active living. Joanna Rybak applied for a portion of their grant this year and was awarded \$500. There are several areas where these funds could be used at the garden such as to increase education or for the Weigh In to Win program.

Weigh In To Win. This contest is to provide a challenge for the plot holders to weigh their harvest for monthly prizes. The monthly prizes would be \$20 grocery gift cards with the overall winner receiving a gift basket from a local establishment. A scale will be purchased and placed near the bulletin board along with the recording sheets. The information gathered from this contest will be used to show what type and how much was harvested at the garden.

Social and Weed and Watering Committee. The new Social co-chairs for the committee are Brandi Doocey and Jenni Riberdy. A wine and cheese social is planned for the end of August with the Harvest party in September. The actual dates and times will be determined. Other activities such as Grass Roots Fundraising, garden cookbook and possible Harvest Dinner were discussed.

There is an opening for a Weed, Water and Compost Committee Chair person. Many options were discussed to ensure that the plot holders were completing the required work days. A volunteer spreadsheet will be set up on the bulletin board for everyone to see what their assignments are and what needs to be completed. The End of Season Committee will use this information to determine if plot holders can get their deposits refunded or have a plot next year.

Sponsor Report. The report is finished and will be sent to SPA, Live Well and to all of our donors.

Experimental Beds. There are six beds and two of these have covers. The growth data is a lot higher from the covered beds. 296 ounces of food has already been harvested. The information collected will be written in a clear manner and shared with all.

Education Classes. There will be a Flower Power class with the Living Classroom on July 27, 2011.

Memorial Benches. The plan is for this project to be completed this year with a Bench Warming dedication service to be held possibly at the Harvest Party. A contact list for the bench donors will be formalized and everyone contacted. Examples of approved preassembled benches will be provided.

Composting. Signage for the program will be updated and placed on site. It is felt this year the composting project will be more for educational purposes. A local program to help with our compost will be sought. A link to the local Compost Pilot Program will be added to our website.

Marketing Update. The Facebook page for SCG is slowly growing and currently has 15 fans. This is the first place to find out what is happening at the garden. More pictures and items will be posted. Our Constant Contact has 67 contacts. A big "Thank You" to Marie Orlin for doing such a fabulous job on maintaining the SCG website.

Women of Water Color. The ladies will be visiting the garden in August to spend a day painting. There was a suggestion to see if several of the paintings could be donated and used for an auction.

Garden Mentors. Anyone with knowledge about the garden could be a mentor. An email will be sent out to see if anyone would be interested in becoming a SCG mentor. This information will then be placed on the SCG website.

Financials. There is around \$5,700 in operating. The past three months of expenses; seeds, experimental bed material, bridge materials, Weigh in to Win scale, domain name and assorted garden supplies have been submitted for payment. Future expenses; benches, gift certificates for teachers, shed, experimental bed coordinator and supplies for fundraising will be submitted as they come up.

Exterior Foliage Updates. The initial concept with plant examples for a Xeriscape garden was discussed. The idea is to provide an example of plants that are better suited for our environment. This can be an exciting new way for SCG to become involved in educating the public about better landscape choices and water saving ideas. An option for donations, grants and funding over a 2 year span was considered. The project will be headed by Marie Orlin and Deb Polich.

Next Meeting. The next board meeting has been scheduled for Monday, August 22, 2011 at 6-7:30 PM. Location to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.