



NLR Community Garden Advisory Committee

April 20, 2017, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Welcome

Present: Beth White, Ruth Landers, Robert Fisher, Isaac Henry, Bernadette Rhodes

Adopt rules for business conduct. Discuss public notification.

Meeting notices must be sent to the press 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Rules for Business Conduct

- Absences: Committee members can vote to excuse absences or choose to leave those absences unexcused. If a committee member has two unexcused absences in the same calendar year, they will be replaced.
Bernadette Rhodes made motion to approve. Robert Fisher seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- If a quorum is present, an “aye” vote from the majority of members constitutes an affirmative vote.
- Members must be physically present to vote.
- An in-person meeting is required to vote on any items involving approving or increasing garden funding.
- Committee members must recuse themselves from any vote from the outcome of which they or their organization would benefit.
- Special meetings must be coordinated with members at least one week ahead of the proposed meeting date.
Vote on the above five rules: Bernadette Rhodes made motion to approve. Ruth Landers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Funding cycle date change

Committee suggested changing community garden Request for Proposal (RFP) guidelines to January 15 and July 15.

Bernadette Rhodes made motion to approve. Ruth Landers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Request to amend St. Joseph Center Community Garden’s funding amount

Ruth Landers with the St. Joseph Center Community Garden requested an additional \$1,550 to increase the size of the garden’s proposed 3-part compost bin to accommodate the composting needs of all the garden projects at St. Joseph Center of Arkansas. This would bring St. Joseph Center Community Garden’s total Spring 2017 funding amount to \$2,750.00.

Robert Fisher made motion to approve. Beth White seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Ruth Landers abstained from the vote.

Status of St. Joseph Universal Institute of Theology Community Garden

There is concern about a lack of maintenance and planting at the St. Joseph Universal Institute of Theology Community Garden. A visual inspection on Thursday, April 13, 2017 showed no evidence of vegetable growing. The garden manager requested plant starts from the greenhouse, which were delivered on Thursday, April 13, 2017. The garden was inspected again on Thursday, April 20, 2017, and the plant starts had not yet been planted in the garden beds.

Isaac Henry will consult with the garden manager before the next committee meeting.

The Committee decided to come up with a checklist for assessing gardens and a process for deciding when a garden should be terminated from the NLR Fit 2 Live Community Garden Program and have its agreement with the City nullified. Initial ideas for an assessment checklist were:

- 1) Length of grass in common areas
- 2) Appropriate soil care (watering, covered in off-season)
- 3) Planting/plant care
- 4) Community involvement
- 5) Safe environment for the public

The committee will meet again next Wednesday to vote on a process.

Elect Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Robert Fisher made a motion to elect Isaac Henry as the Chairperson and Holly Anderson as the Vice-Chairperson. Ruth Landers seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

Set for Wednesday, April 26, 2017, 2:30-3:30 PM at NLR Neighborhood Services.

Open Forum

No comments.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00 PM.