

MINUTES
SOUTHSIDE PLACE COMMUNITY GARDEN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 26, 2017

A meeting of the Southside Place Community Garden's Board of Directors was held at Tiny's at 5:30PM. All Board members (Julia Babcock, Kay Browning, Linda Burdine, Linda Elkin and Patty Tilton) and Patty's son, Chris Tilton, were present.

The board approved the minutes of the October 6, 2016 meeting (previously distributed) and elected Linda Burdine as Secretary of the Board, as she has been functioning in that position since Bryan Baker resigned.

Chris presented the financial report and the Garden's 2016 tax return (attached). The Board voted unanimously to approve the 2016 tax return and thanked Chris for his organized and informative presentation. Chris then excused himself from the remainder of the meeting.

Second Lot & City Council:

The plans for the second lot were discussed. Joe Przybyl is working on bids from Ram Excavation and LMC Construction for the work to be done on the second lot. He and Julia will present plans to City Council & will respond to other questions that City Council may have regarding the Garden. It is important to delineate the responsibility of the City vs. Community Garden regarding the construction & maintenance of the bocce ball court and second lot. Our mission is gardening, so if the City can't bear the responsibility of building and maintaining the bocce ball court, then we can't support it's addition.

Fundraising:

Dues: Patty distributed a draft of a letter to members of the Community Garden requesting voluntary dues payment of \$25. The letter will be emailed to the membership and distributed within Southside by the City.

Rental of the Garden: We have agreed to allow a birthday party in the Garden on Feb. 18, and they will allow us to use the tent the day after the party for a garden party. It was agreed that we should discuss the development of a policy regarding rental of the Garden with the City. The policy should clarify fees, who will be responsible for booking, how to protect the Garden and beds from damage, how do we monitor the events to prevent underage drinking, ect.

Spring Party: The spring party will be Sunday, April 23 (Earth Day is April 22.) We will add a container garden booth and activities for children. The band for the party will be "Havoc Wagon" for a cost of \$500.

Operations:

Linda E. reported the following: We will be mulching the habitat beds, the sheers need sharpening, we need more spades and new drip hoses for certain beds. And she expressed appreciation for the new sprinkler system.

It was discussed that West University has a new garden club. It was suggested that we reach out to them.

Needs & Priorities:

*Furniture for pergola – Kay will visit store in Destin to investigate shipping to Houston at sale price

*Second lot build-out

*Finish electrical underground to pergola and habitat garden

*WiFi and outdoor speakers

Education:

Kay reported that the Beehive students come to the Garden approximately twice per month. They have plans to raise money to support the Garden. Kay will visit the Post Oak School to see the results of their involvement with our Garden and report back.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15PM.