

**APPROVED MINUTES
SOUTHSIDE PLACE COMMUNITY GARDEN
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2016**

A meeting of the Southside Place Community Garden's Board of Directors was held at the home of Julia Babcock on January 21, 2016 at 5:30pm. Julia Babcock, Linda Burdine and Patty Tilton were present. Since the last board meeting, the board had received notice of the resignations of Amy Bryant and Bryan Baker. The board accepted those resignations, and voted unanimously to elect two new directors, Kay Browning and Linda Elkin. Kay and Linda were present and agreed to serve as directors.

The board approved the draft minutes of the August 27, 2015 meeting, previously distributed.

Patty gave a financial report. She produced and reviewed the SSCG tax return. We have \$4000 remaining from the \$10,000 donation for the shed.

Linda Elkin reported on garden operations. She and Amy Bryant have been transitioning and working on a spring planting plan. The garden is in good shape on soil and compost for spring. Watering is an ongoing issue – timers malfunction, hoses are too short. The board discussed solutions – Kay suggested that once we have power, we could install a sprinkler system that would save volunteer hours. Volunteer interest may be waning so we need to find ways to more effectively utilize our volunteers. Linda E. mentioned that there is also a need for new tools and shelving in the shed.

Possible capital expenditures were discussed. Julia reported that Joe Przybyl is working with the city on getting a contractor to install electricity in the garden. The cost will be less than \$3000. The board is working with the bank and Lovett homes regarding the display of their corporate logos. The need for permanent furniture for the gazebo was discussed, as the rocking chairs are a temporary donation. An additional

capital need is a bulletin board or some means of communication with volunteers. We may also need additional crushed granite.

Kay reported on the garden's educational outreach programs at the Beehive and Post Oak Middle School. The students from the Beehive planted fall vegetables, tended them weekly, then harvested and tasted the vegetables. Nine students from Post Oak visit the garden two days per week to weed, care for the habitat garden, compost and care for the raised beds seasonally.

The date of the spring family party will be April 24. The format of the party was discussed. Family friendly activities are planned, such as a potting tent for kids and adults.

The issue of a lease with the city and the provision of insurance coverage for garden activities by the city were discussed. The need to continue discussion with the city regarding the use of the second lot was also discussed. It was decided that board members and Bryan Baker would attend the February 9 City Council meeting to discuss these items.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15pm.