



Uxbridge Community Gardens

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Uxbridge
Town Clerk

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March 12, 2012
Lower Town Hall
21 S. Main St, Uxbridge

Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report: **Sandy Lemire** reporting Feb 13th the account was opened with a \$10 donation. We received a donation of \$2500, and deposit of application fees. Current balance is \$2,620. Treasurer's report accepted.

Application Update: 6 applications had been received prior, and at tonight's meeting approximately 12 more applications were received.

Marking and Plowing of Plots: **Kris Holt** had marked out rows to be plowed. It is difficult to get an exact measurement with how high the brush is in the area. **Lyndon Washington** from UYSL was present, and marked off a 40ft boundary that runs the length of the parking lot, so that they can plan for future expansion of the parking area. **Barbara Hall** is going to talk to **Gerry** to ask him to mow the entire area first. **Kris** will remove the stakes that were placed, and then stake the area to be plowed again after the mowing is complete.

It was noted that there was a portion of land in the center of the area which was very wet. If that area is still wet after the mowing, it will be staked off so that it won't be marked as a plot.

Assignment of Plots: Plots will be assigned randomly. This will be done after April 1, 2012.

Soil Sample: **Kris Holt** took the soil sample on 3-11-12. Samples were taken from 12 different areas, per soil sample directions. The soil was quite wet, and the consistency of the soil is comparable from all areas. The samples were mixed, and 1 cupful is set out to dry. Once the soil is dry, it will be mailed to UMASS for testing. **Kris** has the form and check from **Kim DeMers**.

Fundraising: **Jackie Wheelock** reviewed the sponsor letter. She is removing the website information from the form. She has also changed the levels of donation. Formal invitations to donate will be given to specific businesses. **Gail Benedict** suggested

lowering the amount of the minimum donation, but it was agreed that a lower amount would be more for personal donation vs. business donation. UCG members are encouraged to contact Jackie if you would like to approach a business for donations.

Sara Borjenson reported information on pricing for t-shirt and hat printing. Café Press can print T-shirts for \$12.74/each. There is no pricing information yet from Sports Minded (**Melissa Fisher** has requested a quote). BVT is only able to print 10-20 shirts and no hats; however they are interested in helping out with banners and website design. EM screen printing can do a 4 color design for \$9.13/shirt; 50-100 shirts for \$8.72. There is a setup cost of \$150 for 4 color screen or \$195 for 5 color screen. To print hats, a disk needs to be made for a cost of \$70-100, and 50+ hats are \$11.40 each. **Barbara Hall** will check with another garden club to see who they used for printing.

There was discussion regarding putting website or Facebook information on a T-shirt, as well as sponsor names. **Kathleen Francis** suggested putting sponsor names on a banner instead of a T-Shirt that would have to be redone every year. The group needs to decide if the shirts and hats are going to be a fundraiser (selling to the public) or available for UCG members. Also discussed is the possibility of selling other items like tote bags, water bottles, etc. Sara will also look into pricing for other items. There was discussion of selling items at a Farmer's Market or other venues in town. This will be tabled until next month.

Communication: There are currently 23 members on the Facebook page. Please spread the word to increase the numbers. **Kris Holt** will setup a Yahoo email group for UCG members. The Yahoo group will be used for communicating general information. The Facebook page is a good tool for discussion regarding gardening questions and sharing of information, posting pictures, etc. We will have a page on the town website.

Press: The article regarding UCG was in the March NUT. **Mary Helfrich** and **Ann Hanscom** are going to submit an article to the Tribune. **Barbara Hall** is going to email them the picture to go along with the article. Barbara is going to write an article to be submitted for the April NUT – deadline is March 15th. The article will mention that applications are due April 2. **Kelly Bickford** suggested mentioning that UCG is accepting donations. **Jackie Wheelock** is going to email Kelly the PDF donation form for the town website.

Opening Day: Was scheduled for April 21, 2012 at 10:00am. It was mentioned that there is a benefit 5K the same day & time for Melissa Blodgett of UFD. UCG decided to change the time of our opening to 1:00pm so we don't conflict with the other event. **Kelly Bickford** will ask if they can mention the garden opening at the benefit.

We will have an opening ceremony and an "open house". Plot assignments will have to be given out 1-2 weeks prior.

