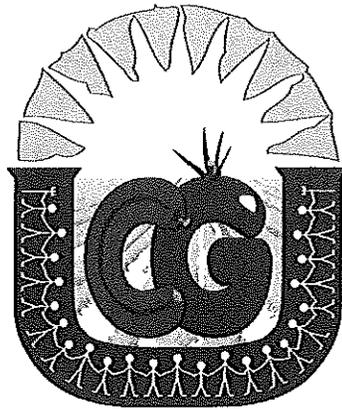


AUG 01 '12 PM12:12



Uxbridge Community Gardens

June 4, 2012
Lower Town Hall
21 S. Main St, Uxbridge

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 7:00pm

Quorum: Meeting started with 4/5, Kim DeMers arrived late for 5/5 in attendance.

Minutes of April 9: Kris Holt reporting. Minutes read & accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Lemire reporting. Treasurer's report accepted. Repeating operating expenses are roughly \$900-\$1000/year. We have 50 plots rented at \$20/ea. We need to continue fundraising efforts, especially if funding a well. Sandy Lemire & Jackie Wheelock are continuing to solicit sponsorships, and are looking for assistance of other UCG members. A sponsor letter and list of businesses is available.

Recognition of Sponsors: Sandy Lemire is maintaining a list of donors.

Old Business

Concerns of Members, forum:

*Barbara Hall reporting gardens had been mowed by DPW. The back of the 3rd row was not plowed. Barbara will talk with Ben Sherman to point out the perimeters of the gardens. Some hand mowing will be needed at the edge of plots.

*What is the cost of a well? A well would be approximately \$5,000, plus an additional \$2,000 estimate for electric.

*It is suggested to use a cooler to bring water up to the gardens.

*Barbara offered to help with tilling & Kris will help with transportation of tiller as needed. Barbara will contact any members whose plots have not yet been worked to see if they need assistance.

*There is concern about bugs at the garden, predominantly cucumber beetles. It was suggested to use Captain Jack's Deadbug spray, it is organic. It was also suggested to sprinkle garlic powder to keep ticks away.

*What will be done with vacant plots? First the weeds will have to be removed, and then we can cover crop with clover.

Message Board / Sign: Gail Benedict reporting for Matt. He plans to have it in by the end of June.

Hat sales & Inventory: We have 17 stone & 16 green hats remaining. We need to sell approx 12 more to break even. Sara Borgeson submitted the second receipt to Sandy.

Water Solution: Gerry Visser dropped off a 1,000 gallon trough. Jim MacNeil & Ed Mahary have looked at the trough and will come up with a plan to make it usable. A wood frame & possibly a screen will be added to prevent mosquitos. Barbara will see if Koopmans might be willing to donate those supplies. It was suggested to add a hand pump to remove water as needed. The National Guard does not have any water buffalos available.

Food Pantry Pickup Schedule: TBD

School Dept. Garden: Janice Watt reporting. She may have 1 elementary school teacher who is willing to help in the fall. Janice and her husband will plant fall harvest crops to get it going. The plots needs work; rock & clod removal. Members of UGC will help to prep the plot.

Website: The new town website should be completed by the end of June, UGC will have a page. Barbara gave a presentation to the BOS at the May 14th meeting. There will be 2 articles on the fall town meeting warrant that need to be passed to make UGC official.

New Business:

- 1. Bank Account:** The bank account is currently in Sandy's name. She has all receipts, and the funds are monitored and reported. Unibank has agreed to extend the account until the fall. After UGC is recognized as a town committee, we will transfer the funds into a town revolving account. There will be two names on the account. We will submit receipts and get a check back from the town for any expenses.
- 2. Summer Mowing:** It is all set at the moment
- 3. Treatment of Vacant Gardens:** Barbara will contact the renters of plots not yet worked, and we will cover crop the rest.
- 4. Tshirts:** Passed over for now. The board is in agreement that we need to break even on the hats first.
- 5. 501(C)3 for grants:** Sandy thinks it will be beneficial to file as a 501(c)3 going forward if we want to apply for grants. We will probably need to form a "Friends of the UGC" or something similar. Barbara will speak with the town manager and also Jean McMurray to discuss the pros & cons. It was also suggested that we look into holding an annual fundraiser (farmer's market, for example) instead of soliciting the same businesses every year.
- 6. Market Day Plans:** The UGC would love to have volunteers to organize and bring suggestions to our next meeting. Sandy will contact Peter McHugh to see if he is interested in helping. Melissa Fisher & Janice Watt agreed to organize a planning session. Suggestions and ideas can be put on the Facebook page and the Yahoo group.

7. **Review of ground rules:** We are still currently in the working phase. We will discuss plowing vs. roto-tilling towards the end of the season. We might develop a subcommittee to review.

*The pastor of the Faith Fellowship church has alpacas and has offered "paca-doo" to any interested gardeners. Barbara has contacted him and suggested we might have use for it in the fall.

*The Food Pantry thanked the UCG for starting a plot and also those gardeners who offered to donate excess crops. Once plants are ripening they will determine a pickup schedule.

*The Smyth Family has offered tomato plants to anyone interested. Kevin offered to pick up the plants, and we will fit as many as possible in the Food Pantry plot.

*A suggestion was made to keep the wagon closer to the compost pile so it is not as visible.

*and, the bluebirds have hatched!

Meeting adjourned 8:08pm.
Next UCG Meeting TBD

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen Holt
UCG Secretary

Barbara Hall
Kim DeMers
Sandy Lemire
Kris Holt
Jackie Wheelock

Chairperson _____
Vice Chair _____
Treasurer _____
Secretary _____
Member at Large _____

Barbara C. Hall
Kim DeMers
Sandy Lemire
Kris Holt
Jackie Wheelock