



Uxbridge Community Gardens

OCT 10 '12 AM 08:09

Posted by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

September 17, 2012
Lower Town Hall
21 S. Main St, Uxbridge

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: 7:00pm

Quorum: 4/5 in attendance.

Minutes of July 30, 2012: Kris Holt reporting. Minutes read & accepted as written.

Treasurer's Report: Sandy Lemire absent. Treasurer's report passed over.

Recognition of Sponsors: No new sponsors. A list of sponsors has been placed on the bulletin board at the gardens & on the town website.

Old Business

- 1. End of Season Event:** We are waiting to hear from Janice Watt if we can hold a potluck event at the new UHS on October 12 or 19. Kris will make a slideshow.
- 2. Plow / No Plow:** There was discussion regarding plowing or not. Gardeners asked how to prepare a plot for winter; Leeway in RI has clover and winter rye if anyone wants to plant a cover crop. Kim D suggested sending an email to those in plots 21-57, to see if they would still like to be plowed. Barbara will send an email.
- 3. Double Fencing:** A few gardeners still have double fencing, although most has come down. Double fencing makes it difficult to weed. This will have to be worked out amongst gardeners, and a policy might be written into the bylaws.
- 4. Review of Ground Rules:** The ground rules will be reviewed again at the end of the season.
- 5. Non-Profit Status:** The Wheelockville Playground has federal non-profit designation. It is currently chaired by Sarah Douglas, and she provided UCG with a copy of their regulations. This was established in 2004, and they have an active account with Unibank. UCG might be able to fall under their "umbrella" for non-profit status. Jean MacMurray has offered to help UCG with grant writing once we are established as a non-profit.

New Business:

- 1. Fall Town Meeting:** Review of the two petition articles took place. Barbara has collected the necessary signatures to have the petition articles placed on the warrant for

the November 20 town meeting. The petitions will need to be filed by Friday Sept. 21st at 5:00pm.

There is a \$12,000 limit for a town revolving fund.

As a 501c3 we would need to establish a "Friends of the UCG" to apply for grants.

We would run as two organizations; the "Friends of UCG" and a UCG Town Committee (following town committee rules – posting agendas, minutes, having a quorum, etc.)

There was discussion regarding the BOS meeting. The town manager presented the initial articles for the town meeting warrant. Only 2/5 BOS members voted in favor and a simple majority was needed.

The UCG is on town owned land.

Barbara will go to the FinCom meeting to seek their approval in supporting the articles.

Our strategy is to convince the town that UCG should be a town committee. There is no added cost, and we could apply for additional grants.

Barbara has been in contact with the Franklin Community Gardens, they qualified for Mass in Motion, a MA Dept of Health Grant, as they are a town committee.

We will place an article in the October issue of the NUT. Buddy Keegan has offered to write a comprehensive letter regarding the vote.

UCG can contact the Uxbridge 2020 group regarding support via their email list.

We can contact Adam Silva regarding an article in the Tribune, as well as writing Letters to the Editor.

It was suggested to review the BOS Meeting in which the UCG articles were discussed.

Kris will ask Barry about getting the tape.

2. Fall Clean Up: The deadline for shutting down the gardens is the first week of November.

3. Reserving Gardens for 2013: Do we find out who is returning? There are some gardeners who would like to move to a different plot.

We will get a commitment from existing gardeners by December 1, 2012, payable by March 1, 2013.

We will start to accept applications from new gardeners starting January 1, 2013, payable by April 1, 2013.

There are 7 gardens currently open, and the 4th row will need to be plowed.

4. Compost pile – it was asked if it would be possible to add a second compost pile on the other side of the gardens. It is too wet to put one on the right-hand side.

5. Cultural Council – Edwina asked if UCG was looking into possible grants. Jackie W. has the information and she is following up.

Meeting adjourned.

Next UCG Meeting TBD

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen Holt
UCG Secretary

Barbara Hall
Kim DeMers
Sandy Lemire
Kris Holt
Jackie Wheelock

Chairperson Barbara C. Hall
Vice Chair Kim DeMers
Treasurer Sandy Lemire
Secretary Kristen Holt
Member at Large Jackie Wheelock