

Sunriver Community Gardens Society Council Meeting October 20, 2020

Location: Jill and Clive Hickson's Home, 23-2363 Demamiel Drive (The Pointe), 6pm

Attendees:

- Council Members: Chairperson - Jill Hickson, Plot Registra - Janet Renfroe
- Pod Rep - Val Ross
- Members at Large: Augusta Popovich, Chris Borysiak, Ellen Dejardins, Paula McCormick
- Regrets: Council Secretary and Treasurer: Christine Eastgaard

Minutes of last meeting, considered read, motion by Val, seconded by Augusta.
APPROVED

Reports:

Plot Registrar – Janet

There are currently 15 people on the waitlist. Five plots are currently available as some plot holders have already indicated they will give up their plots for the next season.

Growing For Sooke – Paula's end-of-season report to be submitted.

Food CHI – Jill

There have not been any meetings over the summer that Jill has been involved with. She will reach out to Anita to find out when the next Food Chi meeting will take place.

General Maintenance – Janet

The October 4th work bee was a huge success. We had 20+ people come out and a lot of tasks were accomplished!

Orchard – Glen

The yew tree has now been moved from behind plot 102 to the pond area.

New Business:

Fence: Discussion regarding the history of the fence repair. Food Chi has sent a report regarding the fence and an update on the work being done. This report will be sent out to all council members as it was only just realized that not all members had the information.

SRG will send a response to Anita (Food Chi) to ask for clarification on some items ie. a suitable material to use to block off the area, exact area to be roped off, and money to be allocated to this project.

Action: Chris will price out different fencing material. Janet will get estimates on possible plants to create a hedge in front of the fence. Jill will ask Christine to contact Food Chi with our questions/concerns.

Sunriver Gardens Updated Plot map: A new map has been created that shows the new Pod 4 area and the new plots at the south end of the garden that were formerly Grow-a-Row. This map will be posted at the gardens.

Cherry tree and kiwi: Discussion regarding the dead branch in the cherry tree.

Action: Chris will remove the dead limb and add it to the burn pile. Janet will reach out to Glen to schedule a time for a number of people to learn how to prune the kiwi.

Treasurer position: Christine Eastgaard to continue in her role as secretary and act as treasurer until the spring AGM. Discussion followed regarding setting up a bank account for SCGS. Val raised the issue question about council roles, voting members, and other procedures.

- Action: Jill Hickson and Janet Renfroe to open a bank account at Coast Capital.
- Action: for Christine Eastgaard to document council roles, and draft voting members and bylaws.

Chimney sweep: The chimney in the gazebo has a build up of creosote. Augusta mentioned Aero as a company that could help us with this and will look into getting a quote.

Compost: Kimberly has now completed the signs for the compost. The large one has been installed on the fence near Phillips Rd. A discussion took place regarding the different compost systems – inside and outside the fence.

Motion by Janet: to create a second compost within the gardens (north of the greenhouse) that would be the same system as the compost near Phillips Rd and that the area in the parking lot by the large cement blocks be used for woodchips, manure, and grass clippings. Seconded: Val. Passed

Growing For Sooke Survey Monkey: There were 34 respondents to the survey, with an overwhelming majority wanting to keep a food growing program going. Paula discussed some of the setbacks this summer. She will put together a report and email it next week. Ellen reported on her findings after contacting a local organization that would accept food donations. The matter will be turned over to the newly formed committee that will come up with a plan for council to consider at the next meeting.

Fall Cleanup: In the past, the hoses have all been taken down and stored for the winter. Discussion followed regarding whether or not this was necessary. It was decided to leave the hoses out this year.

Action: Chris will look after making sure the hoses are well drained and then put back on the posts. Janet will contact Glen to see whether or not a final mowing is needed, and will let everyone know when the water will be shut off.

Newsletter: Given the amount of upcoming information for plot registration/renewal, there will not be a newsletter this month.

SRG Guidelines revisions and changes: This will be discussed further at a meeting during the winter.

Soil pile at the end of the parking lot: Jill reported two different quotes to get this soil moved (\$260, \$300). It was decided this is a bit expensive at this time. Action: Augusta will reach out to Jasmine to see if she can do this work for us at a reduced rate.

Plot registration: Janet will be sending out an email soon with all of the information about plot registration and renewal. The final deadline for payment is November 30 and this will be strictly enforced.

A discussion followed about using e-transfer payments, but it was felt that this would be too confusing at this time, as members still have to sign a contract at the time plot fees are paid. It was decided that our goal would be to have an electronic version of the contract and e-transfer capability set up for next year's registration.

Next meeting: Monday, November 23, at 23-2363 Demamiel Drive (The Pointe), 6pm

Meeting Adjourned: 9:30pm