



CITY OF HAGERSTOWN, MARYLAND

Department of Parks and Engineering

COMMUNITY GARDEN ASSOCIATION SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING

MINUTES

March 5, 2022

10:00 AM at the Downtown Library



Mission: To provide the community with the opportunity and means to grow vegetables, herbs and flowers, to educate people about the benefits of gardening and cultivate a community of people committed to sustainable land use in our city.

MEETING ATTENDEES: See attached sign in sheets

Discussion: Rodney called the meeting to order at 10:10 and the following items were discussed and agreed to by the consensus of those present:

1. Rodney gave an overview of the Garden and explained the city's role in supporting the Garden. He indicated that there were two general meetings per year, in November and March. This is the 7th season and only seven new gardeners. Rodney told the group that all the plots are assigned and that there is a waiting list of four people.
2. The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed.
3. Members introduced themselves and there is a nice diversity in gardening experience and backgrounds.
4. Rodney explained that the gardeners could begin gardening at any time and he combination to the locks for the garden gates and the sheds: is "2626" (easy way to remember: there are 26 plots) but we will ask **Parks staff to change them to "6262" in the near future**. Gardeners were reminded to lock the garden and the shed when they leave. They are also responsible for keeping their gardens tidy and weeded AND also keeping the area immediately surrounding their plot clean and weed free. If there is an issue Rodney will contact them.
5. **Garden Rules:** Gardeners are asked to acknowledge they read the Rules and return a signed copy of the Rules to the City.
6. **Tools:** Tools include watering cans, wheelbarrow, and hand tools. Tools must be cleaned after each use to be ready for the next person to use them.

The tiller and gasoline for it are available (several people used the tiller after the meeting). Please keep the tines clear of wrapped up weeds for best performance. If there is a problem with the tiller, please contact Rodney.

7. **Water:** There is public water for the Garden. City staff will make sure water is turned on next week. The hydrant has a lock on it and the combination is also 2626 (**soon 6262**). PLEASE make sure the water is off when you leave the garden. ADA beds require more water
8. There is Leaf Gro soil amendment in a bin at the back of the garden and can also be used as a soil amendment. The bins will be refilled as necessary by the city.
9. **Staying connected:** Monica has set up a closed group Facebook page for the ‘Hagerstown Community Gardeners’. This is in addition to the City-established Facebook page for the Hagerstown Community Garden.

There is also a list of members on the bulletin board at the garden with contact information. Members are encouraged to contact one another with ideas, questions and concerns.

10. **Abandoned Plots:** Email Rodney if a plot appears to be abandoned. If a plot is neglected, Rodney will contact the gardener and ask them to remedy the situation. If a gardener has to abandon a plot, Rodney will assign the plot to a person on the waiting list.
11. **Garden waste:** Waste Management has provided five green totes to put garden organic waste in. It will be collected every week and taken to the landfill where it is shredded and made into compost. Please store them by the big gate and shut the lids to keep rain out.
12. **Excess Food:** Gardens produce more than many people can use and produce should not go to waste. The City will have a “excess produce, help yourself” sign made. Ideas for places to take excess produce are as follows:
 - Soul Haven
 - Holley Place
 - “Blessing to Be a Blessing”Monica will post these in the bulletin board with contact information.
13. **Bulletin Board:** We will post in the bulletin board (key is kept in the southern shed hanging on a nail) the list of plot holder names, plot numbers and contact information of all the gardeners. The garden rules are posted too.
14. **Monarch Waystation:** The garden is a registered ‘waystation’. Pollinator plants will be placed along the southern fence as was done last year.
15. Bonnie Kauffman from *Hagerstown Tractor Supply* attended and she will be providing many items to the garden again this year as part of their support! Some items mentioned were: shovels, short handled tools, pruners, and seeds/plants. Everyone is very appreciative of their support.

Bonnie will also look into possible classes at the garden on pest management, pollinators and master gardener information.

16. Monica will confirm that Starbucks will again provide used grounds for soil amendment.
17. Fruit on trees in the front is first-come-first-serve
18. Rodney is trying to get the stone dust in the common areas replaced.
19. Discussed *possible* relocation of the garden in the next five years due to new Fire Station.
20. Some timbers need immediate attention.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00AM.

The next “meeting” will be in the fall.

CC: All 2022 plot holders
Mark Haddock
Scott Smoot
Cathy Beach

Attachment: Sign in sheets
Plot Assignment list

SIGN-IN SHEET

Meeting: Community Garden Meeting

Date: March 5, 2022

NAME	REPRESENTING	CONTACT INFORMATION
Root Tissue	CITY	Phone: 301-739-8577 x128 Cell: 240-675-3743 E-mail: rtissue@hagerstaunmd.org
Pam Meredith		Phone: 301-991-2831 Cell: E-mail: meredp@msw.com
AMANDA MOORE	AWAKENINGS	Phone: 5015456707 Cell: same E-mail: amoore@midwestdetoxcenter.com
Margaret h Napoleon	Margaret h Napoleon	Phone: (301)991-6621 Cell: E-mail: Sahgany@gmail.com
DEAN BURKETT	JASON SHOFF	Phone: 301-223-9213 Cell: E-mail: DEANBURKETT@MYACTU.NET
Roberta Weaver		Phone: 240-520-4038 Cell: E-mail: R_Weaver@outlook.com
Diana Gillaspie		Phone: Cell: 541-260-3371 E-mail: dagillaspie@gmail.com
Leanne Fortney		Phone: 703-935-9083 Cell: " E-mail: leanne3661@hotmail.com
Tom Gossard		Phone: 615-542-7948 Cell: " E-mail: tomgossard99@gmail.com
Bonnie Kauffman	Tractor Supply	Phone: Cell: 717-377-7660 E-mail: bkauffman@tractorsupply.com
Monica Johnson		Phone: 240 778 5249 Cell: E-mail: monicajohnson.229@gmail.com
Carolyn Crosby		Phone: 240-381-1415 Cell: 240-707-7086 E-mail: chefcrosby@gmail.com

