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**Morgan Hill Community Garden Minutes**

**Tues., May 25, 2021 6:30 pm  
Zoom Meeting**

**Board Members:**

John Jenkins	President 2023	Pat Day	Board Member. 2023
Mary Mansson	Vice-President 2023	Joe Elliott	Board Member 2023
Linda Sears	Treasurer 2022	Daniel Armendariz	Board Member 2022
Mary Kellogg	Secretary 2022	Allen Palmer	Board Member 2022
		Ab- Alex Simpliciano	Board Member 2023

I. Call Meeting To Order 6:34 pm John Jenkins, President.

II. Adopt Agenda and Apr. Minutes John Jenkins, Action Item  
(Plot limitation- postponed until more expansion plots are completed to have more current wait list information)  
Motion to approve by Pat, second by Daniel. Approved 7-0  
(Allen abstained because he did not attend the last meeting and Alex was absent.)

III. Hearing of Membership/Questions Membership, Info Item  
Laura Guevara- Laura thanked the Garden from herself and her mother who are thrilled to have a plot at the Morgan Hill Community Garden.

IV. Reports  
A. Financial Report 4/28-5/25, 2021 Linda Sears, Action Item  
Beginning Balance: \$17,273.49  
Receipts: Plot rentals- \$417.50  
Expenditures: Garden refund \$78.75, Porta Potty \$193.60, Garden irrigation and expansion supplies \$297.29, water \$226.40, reversed uncashed check credit \$5.00 Total \$801.04  
Ending Balance: \$16,889.95

Plot rental update: 100% rented (one on way to post office)

Water Usage: 50 units. Linda will provide a year to year comparison for next month.

Motion to approve this report by Mary M, second by Allen. 1 absent. Approved.

Notice to be sent out- To educate gardeners about using water efficiently, vacation watering, helpers to be added to registration form, moisture meter use.

Motion to send out info by Allen, second by Daniel. Approved.

B. Oversight Committee Mary Kellogg, Info Item

Four emails were sent out regarding plots that had not been attended to so far this new year. One gardener gave up their plot and a new person is being placed. Another got to the garden right away and started planting. Another was out of town most of the month of May and will be there when they return. The last gardener had left soil sacks out in the walkway and just received their email today. A couple of other plots were being watched, or the gardeners were contacted in person by the Oversight Committee, but those plots have been tended to without further communication from MHCG.

### C. Work Day Committee

Kay Meyer, Info Item

During the last two work days, volunteers painted more than 30 new decorative numbers. The next step is to add the clear coat. Kay will bring them to the garden to be installed. A volunteer will write MHCG on all tools in the shed. John suggested that a new job could be to pull weeds near the compost bin and wood chips can be spread in the expansion area. It was decided to advertise work days for this weekend (5/29 and 5/30) 10 am -noon.

Motion to accept this report was made by Allen, second by Mary M. Approved.

### D. Outreach Committee Report

Allen Palmer, Information

Allen reported that this has gotten very complex. The City offered to send notification to all low-income housing managers announcing the garden. The concern during our discussion was that if there is a big response we would not have enough beds available since we are just able to keep up with the wait list we currently have. We also have a limited number of reduced fee plots available for the year, so we could get more interest than we can supply. We decided to hold off until we see how we progress with our current plot building and if our new garden plot construction works out well. We could also ask to get mentioned in the weekly City email sent out to residents.

Motion to accept the report by Mary M, second by Linda. Approved.

## V. Unfinished Business

### A. Garden Expansion

John Jenkins, Discussion.

The trenching, hose bibs, and irrigation is done. There are no leaks! The next step is to fill in the trenching. They tried to disk the soil last Sunday, but the ground was too hard and it didn't work. Plan B is to cover the ground completely with wood chips, edge with the waddle, and fill with soil. A gardener could loosen up the soil later after the next rainy season. We need to determine how to affix numbers to the new areas without wood plots.

### B. Number of Plots Limitation

John Jenkins, Action Item

(Postponed until more expansion plots are completed to have more current wait list information)

### C. Fundraising Opportunities

John Jenkins, Action Item

#### 1. Santa Clara County Grant (Pandemic Relief Fund)-

We received a letter saying that our grant has been funded. We will learn after their June meeting exactly how much we will receive for the grant.

#### 2. Pepper Project-

The discussion continued from last month regarding the tax liability for sending peppers back to the salsa company that sent us the seeds to plant and receiving a "donation" from them. Many community gardens have participated in this, but some of our Board or past Board members are concerned. It was suggested that we get a final answer from a CPA or other tax consultant before we accept a check from this company. On the IRS website it was mentioned that if the donation is less than \$5000.00 we don't pay tax on it, but we will still get verification of this. John made a motion for Allen to make the call to a tax professional to find out if we can participate in this activity. Second by Pat. Approved.

