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Morgan Hill Community Garden Minutes

**Tues., July 27, 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
		Alex Simpliciano	Board Member 2023

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

II. Adopt Agenda and May Minutes John Jenkins, Action Item
Change- No Work Day report this month.

III. Hearing of Membership/Questions Membership Info Item
Rebecca Parekhji will address “Drought and Watering” later in the meeting.

IV. Reports

A. Financial Report May 26-July 27, 2021 Linda Sears, Action Item

Beginning Balance: \$16,889.95. Ending Balance \$16,235.44

Receipts: Plot rentals- \$197.50

Expenditures: Bank fees \$3.00, Garden refund \$107.50, Porta Potty \$347.20 (two months),
Regulation Fee (Secretary of State) \$20.00, Building supplies Home Depot \$43.24, Website
maintenance \$42.34, water bill \$288.73. Total \$852.01

Notes: 3 plot rentals and 1 currently in the mail. 3 gardeners currently in the ADA area that could need an expansion plot if new ADA people apply, Water Usage this month is 59 units. Lasts year it was 79 unit, so we have saved about 25% over last year. It is projected we will finish the year below budget. The building supplies line is close to reaching the budgeted amount now. Linda will look into the possibility of our meeting location being at the CCC for the remainder of the year. John is curious if masks are required indoors at the CCC. If we can't get the room, Pat will arrange another Zoom meeting.

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

B. Oversight Committee Mary Kellogg, Info Item

A notice went out to all members which included work day information and included information about the need to trim plants to the plot boundary. Most gardeners took care of that. Two gardeners who still had overgrown plants received an email notice and then trimmed up. The garden looks good.

Additional discussion- Location of piles for clippings when there is too much for the yard waste carts or compost bins #1 and #2. Allen suggests grinding this plant growth for the compost bins. In his September class, Pat will include directions for where to put extra clippings that don't fit in our usual locations, along with clipping plant growth into smaller pieces.

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

C. Work Day Committee- no report this month

D. Garden Expansion

John Jenkins, Info

Four plots were built and one has been well-planted already. To label the plots with numbers we will wait until after the rains soften the soil and put in a stake with a plot number on it. Three plots will be allocated to those in the ADA area who may need another plot if we have ADA applicants. We may run out of soil piles soon.

E. Grant

Santa Clara County has not finalized the grant business so we haven't received the money yet. John projects it could be \$3,000-\$5,000. John is waiting to receive word on how much it will be and what restrictions there will be on the use of the funds. If we are able to build a storage area in the back we will need to look into methods to keep the squirrels out.

Motion to approve the report by Allen, second by Linda. Approved.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Fundraising Opportunities John Jenkins, Action Item

Currently we had a connection with a salsa company who would use the peppers and send us a donation of money. They do this with many community gardens across the country. We decided to not do this after we planted the peppers due to questions regarding tax liability and nonprofit regulations. The Serrano peppers are now getting ripe and can be given to a food donation agency. We could get information from the Fleurs gardening group to see how they manage their fundraisers. Mary M will look into getting a seller's license which allows us to have a few fundraising events each year or allows us to earn a certain amount of money each year. Fundraising could cover expenses for scholarship plots.

VI. New Business

A. Drought and Watering

John Jenkins, Discussion

Membership Comment: Rebecca agrees that the water bill going down is good. She suggested we could have an automatic shut off valve at the end of each hose. There could be a hand shut-off switch. (John added that they would need to be brass so they won't break.) We will look at the grant when it comes to see if that is an okay purchase. Pat asked how many more we would need. It was estimated we would need about 20 more at about \$17 each.

Board discussion: The water bill shows we are being very effective at using less water over last year. Pat suggested that Board send out a thank you email to the membership about this.

Watering tips will continue to be added to his classes.

B. Additional Comments:

1. John noted there are a lot of ground squirrels and more traps are needed.

Pat made a motion to spend up to \$200. on traps, second by Allen. Approved.

2. Allen suggested a second "Hearing of Membership" at the meeting end.

C. Agenda Items for August

Mary K, Discussion

Grant status if more information is sent to us, continue Drought and Watering, first review of 2022 Garden Policies revision, additional method of disposing of end-of summer/fall plant pruning if too much for yard waste and compost bins

VII. Adjournment

7:34 John Jenkins, Action Item