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Morgan Hill Community Garden Minutes
15690 Railroad Avenue, Morgan Hill

Sat., January 23, 2021 10:30 am

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- 10:28 am John Jenkins, President.
Introduction of Board Members Welcome all and new members Pat Day and Alex Simpliciano. John looks forward to everyone's good ideas and help. He received a positive note in mail with a donation of \$100. A community family did gift giving of a donation instead of gifts to family members this year.

II. Adopt Agenda and Oct. Minutes John Jenkins, Action Item, 5 min.
Motion by Joe to accept the agenda and minutes, seconded by Allen. Approved.

III. Hearing of Membership/Questions Membership (None presented)

IV. Reports

A. Financial Report/Annual Budget. Linda Sears

December 2020 had \$1480 income and expenses of \$880. Ending balance \$9618.10. This balance is about \$2000 less than in previous years due to new garden expenses paid out of Savings in 2020. There is \$11,529 in budget categories, but \$9,976.10 in actual funds and income from plot rental. The previous year we had \$11,775 in proposed expenses with \$11,529 in actual expenses. The new budget increases the water bill amount to \$2,700 because of our increased number of plots over the previous year. Porta-Potty cost have increased to \$2520 for the year and web site maintenance went up. There is an additional \$250 on miscellaneous and contingency funds for unexpected costs like rodent extermination. The insurance cost is \$1150. Meeting costs are down to \$100 since we are not paying to use the CCC for now. Linda presented the Inventory sheet for the year. Pat brought us a discussion of reducing some expenses to balance our budget so we will spend based on our actual income of plot rental and not use reserves now that we are settled in the new location. Allen suggests making the budget more accurate to exact spending. Construction costs could be reduced for 2021 to \$500 without garden expansion. At the next meeting we will discuss eliminated registration refunds once paid in the 2022 year. Our costs are \$11,500 and our income is 8,000. We are over by \$3500. We discussed requesting donations from gardeners, perhaps \$20 each. Eliminating the Porta-Potty would take that overage down a lot. John will look into gardening costs at other community gardens in preparation for an email asking gardeners for increased fees/donations/loss of PortaPotty. Allen made a motion for John to create a subcommittee to investigate costs and return with concrete action plan within 60 days. The committee will be Linda, Allen, Pat, Alex, Daniel.

Motion to accept report by Allen, with a second by Joe. Approved

B. Oversight Committee Mary Kellogg, Info Item

One notice went out regarding a hay bale in the pathway. Pat says the garden looks better than it ever did before in January.

C. Work Day Committee

Kay Meyer, Info Item

Kay's prepared a work day list for 2021. There are morning work days on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. There are Thursday evening dates. Other jobs that can be done are to organize tool shed, and to clean and sharpen tool. We can prepare a list of various jobs to post.

Motion to accept the

report by Joe, with a second by Mary M. Approved .

D. Garden Planning Report

John Jenkins, Info Item

The pollinator garden is 3000 square feet. It has been worked on by Scouts who did work planting plants and who did fundraisers for benches. We need more mulch. There are a few weeds that are trying to grow but are blocked by fiber under the mulch. A new scout wants build arch trellises over the benches. Another scout wants to get funding and build another compost bin. Our current compost bin is built with wood recycled from old garden. The Children's Garden was done by Leadership Morgan Hill. There was a donation of \$6000 in funds from Sakata Seeds, and Mike Cox built and donated the tables. There was \$600 left over which paid for the additional cement work under the gazebo. The tables will need refinishing done occasionally. Two new signs were made by City and Leadership Morgan Hill. Expansion- Joe has mapped out new areas we could move to next in a triangular area. We would need \$5000-6000 to proceed. John will write a grant to Sakata Seeds. Joe will work on a plumbing estimate.

Motion to accept the report by Allen, with a second by Mary M. Approved.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Beehive Update

Mary Mansson, Info Item

Mary M researched beehives. The insurance company would okay it, but has issues to address. The person maintaining the beehive has to have their own separate insurance. A sign needs to be posted notifying people of the beehive on the property. It needs to be registered with the state and the county. The City of Morgan Hill is okay with it, but they recommend getting someone else with their own insurance to place and maintain it. Registering the hive is done for hive protection so no one will pollute the hive. There was a discussion about the benefit of a hive. Maybe having African daisy plants are an option. Joe will research native bees and the habitats they need.

VI. New Business

A. Number of Plots Limitation

John Jenkins, Discussion

There is no motion to change the plot limitation at this time.

B. Garden Expansion

John Jenkins, Discussion

(Covered above.)

C. Agenda Items for February

Mary K, Discussion

Carpenter bee report from Joe (He notes that they don't sting.) Budget committee report on raising yearly fees to meet expenses. Gardening fee refund bylaw/policy change. Date-. Feb 20. 10:30 am

VII. Adjournment

11:47 John Jenkins, Action Item