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## Morgan Hill Community Garden Agenda

Tues., April 27, 2021 6:30 pm  
Zoom Meeting

### Board Members:

John Jenkins President 2023  
Mary Mansson Vice-President 2023  
Linda Sears Treasurer 2022  
Mary Kellogg Secretary 2022

Pat Day Board Member 2023  
Joe Elliott Board Member 2023  
Daniel Armendariz Board Member 2022  
Ab- Allen Palmer Board Member 2022  
Alex Simpliciano Board Member 2023

I. Call Meeting To Order- 6:32 pm John Jenkins, President.

II. Adopt Agenda and Mar. Minutes John Jenkins, Action Item  
Addition to agenda under new business- Toxic and invasive plants.  
Motion to accept by Joe, second by Mary M. Approved unanimously.

III. Hearing of Membership/Questions Membership Info Item  
Teresa Anguiano spoke at the end of the meeting.

### IV. Reports

A. Financial Report Linda Sears, Action Item

The US Bank account was closed today. We now bank with Bank of the West with no fees as long as we maintain a balance of \$5000.00.

Revenue: Plot rentals \$1175.00, Donation \$50.00 from Daniel Armendariz. Total \$1225.00

Expenses: Insurance \$103.96, Porta Potty Rental \$214.50, Building supplies (squirrel trap, trencher rental) \$281.69,  
Water Bill \$298.33 (2 months) Total \$898.50

Current Balance \$17,273.49

B. Oversight Committee Mary Kellogg, Info Item

Two notifications went out this month, one for overgrown plants not contained within the plot boundary (repeat notification) and another one regarding a poisonous plant that needs to be removed.

Since the garden has grown so much since our old location, we felt it was important to divide the supervision of the garden up amongst the Oversight Committee members. Each member will monitor their area and contact the other members regarding any problem areas to verify the concern. The President will be consulted on items we are not sure of. The committee chairperson, or the president will send out the communication email to the garden plot member for the group.

C. Work Day Committee Kay Meyer, Info Item

Kay reported that 26 gardeners have completed their four hours of work day time. 12 gardeners have completed two hours of work day time. (15 plots need to start work day work.) We still have numerous work days for these remaining gardeners. At the next work day Karen and Yvonne will coordinate painting more numbers for plots that still have the metal number. Others can weed and mulch.

Motion to accept the report by Pat, second by Joe. Approved unanimously.

D. Outreach Committee Report      Allen Palmer, Information  
No report, Allen not able to attend this month.

## V. Unfinished Business

A. Garden Expansion      John Jenkins, Discussion

The trenching for water lines was completed last Sunday. Laying the pipe will require shutting the water off for about 1/2 hour. A valve can be installed so the water won't have to be turned off in the future. The next task will be to level out the plot area as best we can. We have access to a free rototiller. Soil needs to be added and plot areas staked. Two future gardeners in the area have already be registered and can help with some of the tasks. John estimates that the new area could be done by the end of May, but maybe not all of the beds. Joe says there can be wider paths with the different plot construction or the same width with fewer beds. He will mark out the first three and then a determination will be made as to what is best.

B. Number of Plot Limitation

We will table this item until we have more information about how the beds will be laid out, how many beds there will be, and an update of the number of people on the wait list.

C. Fundraiser Update

1. New grant opportunity- John submitted a Pandemic Financial Support grant application for nonprofits which could potentially be up to \$5000.00 which has to be related to a project. He requested the grant for 2 more trellises for the pollinator garden, a metal storage area to put in the east side of the garden to store items like tomato cages, etc., 4 new wheelbarrows, and sensor lights.

2. Pepper Plant Growing- A salsa manufacturing company is buying peppers from community gardens (the company supplied the seeds). They send a check to us at the end of the growing season. John looked into it and it seems that it is not a taxable source of income and is considered a "fundraising donation." Pat wonders if this is in conflict with our nonprofit status. Joe wants professional tax advice on this before we accept any money. John looking into the shipping and peppers are a non regulated food item and that there is more information on their website. John will get more tax information for our next meeting.

## VI. New Business

A. Drought and Watering      Pat Day, Discussion Item

Pat commented on us entering another major drought year and wonders how we can control the water use. He thinks we need to think of tentative plans for watering policies. Options could include shutting off the water on certain days once plants get more established in the summer, such as residential restriction that the City puts on residences. Gardeners should not water on windy days, since so much water is blown away and doesn't get to the plants. Some of his suggestions are: 1) Gardeners should stick their finger in the soil to see if it needs water first. If it is moist, don't water. 2) Use mulch to cover the soil and retain water, and water

less. 3) Water tomatoes ONCE A MONTH once they are established. 4) Select one or two week days per week where the water will be turned off. An email could be prepared to send out to the plot holders giving them watering suggestions. Pat will write something up for us to send out.

Linda will add how many units of water we are using to the Treasurer's report each month. We can look to other community gardens in areas that have already been declared to be in a drought and see how they are handling this.

B. Toxic and Invasive plant policy                      John Jenkins, Action Item

It was noticed that a toxic plant was growing in a garden plot. Our policies never mentioned that we can't grown toxic plants, so the Board deemed it necessary to revise the Garden Policies to include that, which is allowed under our Bylaws. Pat made a motion that states:

***IV. Gardening Guidelines, C. Planting Guidelines,***

***1. Plot holders may grow vegetables, herbs, flowers, and fruits in their plot that are not toxic, noxious, or invasive. Plants that cannot be grown include, but are not limited to, poison hemlock, poison oak, morning glory, stinging nettles, and other plants determined by the MHCG Board.***

Daniel seconded the above motion. Approved unanimously.

C. Agenda Items for May                      Mary K, Discussion

Drought and Watering, prohibited plants chart as in other community garden websites, garden expansion update, fundraiser update

Additional discussion-

- 1) Member comments- Teresa Anguiano mentioned that she has some stencils the garden can use and that she is learning a lot from her work in the garden. She has done some repair on her mural that was done with Leadership Morgan Hill.
- 2) Daniel had a question about the availability of soil/compost/mulch at the garden for the gardeners to use. Kay suggests we have a conversation at the work days on how to mix the various soils, etc. for the best use in the garden plot. John and other commented that there are various piles around the garden.
- 3) Pat wants to know if he can spread some of the available wood chips over weeds in the garden. It was mentioned that it could be a work day option. Joe thinks we need to rent a tractor to take care of the weeds. Mike Cox has a tractor and we can also hire someone to do that work.

VII. Adjournment                      8:30 John Jenkins, Action Item