

**Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes**  
**March 5, 2012, 6:30 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 106)**

- **Attendance:** Amy Acevedo, Chris Clay, Kiernan Joliat, Teresa Triana, Rich Clauser, Nicole Harter, Tori Haynes, Cathy Haynes
- **Minutes for 2/6/2012 meeting:** Approved. Suggestion made to add room number to future agendas.
- **New Committee Members:**
  - o Kiernan Joliat nominated as secretary. All members approved.
  - o Associate members – those on Historical Commission are involved but do not vote. Not sure if the issue of associate members for the Community Garden Committee has been raised in Council yet – Amy will follow up with Jeff Nutting on the charter issue.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
  - o Shed – work order has been signed for Tri-County. Order for lumber will go in this week, minus shingles (which are being donated). Amy is putting pressure on Tri-County to schedule the build. We need to work out a date with Carlos for scheduling woodchip delivery – we may need volunteers to help move them. Possibility of doing this at the March 17 opening was turned down as piles of woodchips may still be frozen on that date. Mid-to-late April would be better, so we can maybe tie into the Town’s Earth Day volunteer events.
  - o Compost – Chris and Amy were unsuccessful at contacting Grateful Farm. Amy made a list of other possible suppliers. Town compost vetoed because it is not organic and possibly contaminated by pesticides.
  - o Earth Day – Will be held 9 AM-12 PM Sunday, 4/22. Need to connect with Ryan and he will set up volunteer signup as part of Town’s volunteer activities. We can have gardeners do it as volunteers too.
  - o General – King St. garden is still there! Glass observed in some beds is probably natural result of frost heaving rather than litter. We may want to warn gardeners that it may be there.
- **Renewals/New Gardeners:**
  - o Some issues with tracking who has paid and who has not. Amy’s records show bed #14 has paid but town has no record. Secretary has had other issues so there may be more gardeners who are incorrectly showing up as unpaid. Need to follow up with others who are listed as unpaid to make sure all is OK.
  - o Wait list – 19 as of today (20 on list but one is duplicate). 12 available beds at most.
    - Motion: Chris moves to allow Amy to do the followup outside the committee. Seconded.
  - o New folders for gardeners? Docs from last year have been updated with current year but nothing else. Teresa would like to add a chart with proper planting times, etc. – consensus was OK to use the one from Farmer’s Almanac if we’re careful about copyright. Johnny’s Select Seeds also has a good link for New England transplanting/planting dates. Teresa will work on updating the docs – Deb had offered but is currently unavailable. We will do 12 new folders for the available beds – may want to review as a group, especially re: violations of rules (need to make sure all gardeners are aware of what’s not allowed). Chris will work on

welcome/garden opening day email/blog post with general info (soil settling over winter is natural, watch out for glass, etc.). Shooting to have folders ready for Opening Day.

- **Opening Day – March 17, 2012**

- Blurb appeared in the two monthly mailbox newspapers, also on Franklin Matters (Amy will contact FM re: reminder for next week). Chris will modify existing blog post as a reminder of the event, and include info re: presoaking peas.
- Amy has tons of peas! May need to host a party to package up for attendees
- Amy will bring wintersown seeds – can inform attendees about good spring companions for peas

- **New Business:**

- Tori Haynes and mother Cathy Haynes attended meeting to inquire about possible volunteer opportunities for Tori's Ursuline senior project. Tori is looking for 25 hours/week for month of May. 25 hours a week unlikely to be found just with Friends of the Garden, but possible partnership with Food Pantry has lots of scope for work. Tori could help organize Giving Garden volunteer efforts, partnership with local farms, etc. Experience with coordinating volunteer groups, scheduling, etc. would be helpful – Tori will follow up with Amy and Anne Marie at Food Pantry. Wrentham has a bigger, more established community garden – could also work with them. Other possibilities – Plant a Row program (nationwide effort to grow food for food pantries), grant research for fundraising opportunities, community outreach/publicity at Franklin Farmers Market (Food Pantry hosts a booth there).
- Empty spaces at King St. – can't fill up all spaces with raised beds due to lack of funds, but could maybe lease some of the free space at a reduced rate to container gardeners (Earth Boxes, etc.) Some concern that containers might walk away, but probably not – too heavy!

- **Adjourn: 7:23 PM**