

Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2015 8:15 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 106)

- **Attendance:** Rich Clauser, Amy Acevedo, Bonnie Kaiden
- **Minutes for 11.9/15 meeting:**
 - o Approved
- **Town Issues/Committee Issues:**
 - o Rec Department: Bonnie met with Megan Woodacre to discuss FCGC plans for this year and best ways to work together. Points covered:
 - Confirmed 2016 bed fee will remain at \$40.00
 - Meeting spaces will be available at Rec once build-out is complete in spring. Bonnie will follow up regarding available date. Rich asked at the Library which is willing to provide space as well.
 - Rec can put FCGC link on their website.
 - Rec would benefit from having more information available for gardeners and more effective ways to address questions. We discussed packets they can give out to all new and renewing gardeners when they pay their bill and they would like specific FCGC contact information so they can direct questions they cannot answer. Amy suggested providing a binder to rec with a page for each gardener
 - The idea of giving informational binders with revised rules/regs, planting tips, best practices, etc., to all gardeners, new and renewal this year, was discussed with general consensus. Amy stated that Deb would be happy to help with binders. Bonnie can also help with this.
 - According to Rec, the rules/regs that are posted on the Rec site have not undergone any edits and cover town parks. We can assume they apply to FCGC.
 - o Bonnie contacted the Town attorney Mark Cerel, regarding edits to FCGC rules/regs. It is not necessary to submit edits to our rules/regs to the Town for approval.
 - o Bylaw language edits:
 - o Discussion, support of Amy's suggestion of deadline date June 1. **New bylaw language: "If any unassigned beds remain after June 1, and there is no one on the wait list, the Committee will notify gardeners that additional beds are available. Gardeners may then have the option of leasing one additional bed for that growing season only. The additional bed is not automatically renewable."**
 - All committee members approve.
 - o Further discussion of the workday issues brought up by Rich in November meeting and language to be changed in bylaws relating to this.
 - The word "plot" to be replaced throughout by "bed".
 - Review of Rules & Reg edits discussed previously and at December meeting:
 - **"I will actively garden my bed during the gardening season."** – voted/approved at December meeting
 - Next bullet point: change "the garden leaders" to **"the current Garden Coordinator"** – no vote on this yet. (Question as to if this is rec contact or should also include FCG committee member too.)

- Next bullet point: change to **“I will keep my plot weeded and free of trash and debris, and I will maintain the areas immediately surrounding my bed, including pathways, in the same manner.”** (eliminate “fences”). We would be combining the 3rd and 5th bullet points here. Not voted on
 - Fourth bullet point; change from “becomes unkempt” to **“If my plot becomes poorly maintained, I understand I will be notified by a committee member via email on record. I will have one week to respond via email or phone regarding my intentions in the situation. If the committee receives no response after that time my bed will be reassigned.”** (Discussion on how exactly to handle this). Additional suggestion **“If I am unable to maintain my plot for any reason, whether short term or long term, I will notify the Recreation Department at (508) 613-1666 immediately.”**
 - Bullet about work hours: **“The Community Garden requires ongoing maintenance. Therefore, I agree to complete at least 4 hours per season toward garden maintenance.”**
 - Close of gardening season bullet – after “I will remove all man-made objects, add **“Storage is available in the shed. Objects are not to be stored on the ground next to beds for safety reasons. Additionally, I will compost all non-wintering plants in my bed.”**
 - Guest bullet: **to the Community Garden”** instead of fcg.
 - When we complete what we consider to be the final draft of updated Rules and Regs, it was suggested we have Megan Woodacre review to check if we missed any important points.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
 - Rich will contact gardeners who didn’t clean their gardens at the end of the season.
 - Next meeting will be February 1. Suggestion that we move our meetings to 7:00 PM if possible and feasible for all members
 - **2015 Season (Renewals/New Gardeners):**
 - Nothing to report
 - **Events (Planning/Discussion):**
 - Nothing to report
 - **New Business:**
 - Nothing to report
 - **Adjourn: 9:30 PM**