

Franklin Community Garden Committee – Meeting Minutes
May 4, 2015, 8:00 PM (Franklin Municipal Building, Room 106)

- **Attendance:** Kiernan Reed, Bonnie Kaiden, Chris Clay, Rich Clauser
- **Minutes for 4/6/15 meeting:**
 - o Approved
- **Town Issues/Committee Issues:**
 - o Chris still working with Megan at Rec to transfer registration/waitlist responsibility. 2 people already signed up on internal garden waitlist, Chris is working to get them in touch with Rec. Once that is done Rec will have completely taken over.
 - o Charter school coming out 5/20 for workday as part of community service requirement; need to have Town deliver some woodchips before that date.
- **King St. Community Garden Updates:**
 - o Lumber for new beds is ready to go, just needs to be transported. 1 new bed for Eaton Place and 2 for King St.
 - o Chris has time this weekend to help with transportation, Rich will help assemble.
 - o Water should be on by now – we need to check.
 - o 5/23 will be official garden opening for season – Chris will do an email blast/notify Franklin Matters. Workday/plant sale tentatively planned for that date.
 - o Gardeners have already been working – some beds planted.
 - o Someone has planted a garden about 20 feet to the right of the Community Garden – not sure who is responsible. It is on Town land so we will check with Carlos for more info.
 - o No updates on Signup Genius for workdays – Amy was going to look into this.
- **2015 Season (Renewals/New Gardeners):**
 - o 5 people moved from waitlist into beds, several from last year who said they were renewing have not done so yet.
 - o Unclear how many empty beds we have as we are waiting on some renewals. We may have as many as 5-6 spaces.
 - o All confirmed gardeners are entered into email list.
- **Events (Planning/Discussion):**
 - o Pea planting event 4/18 did not take place – Chris was sick and weather was not good.
 - o Franklin local TV will be covering 5/23 event for us, may get lots of good exposure!
 - o Ed Szymanski wants to speak about pollinators but 6/20 date does not work for him. Kiernan is checking to see if a Sunday would be better.
 - o Franklin Downtown Partnership has advised cost is \$100 for table at Strawberry Stroll; if Friends join FDP, table is free. We will pass this info on to the Friends.
- **New Business:**
 - o Chris will be advising new gardeners re: importance of active pest management in organic gardening – we may want to consider changing our bylaws to specify that if a bed is infested and neglected we can take action.
 - o Also considering having a “pest education” event but we have done those in past and attendance was not good. Email may work better.
- **Adjourn: 8:20 PM**