

Briar Chapel Garden Club (BCGC) Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2021

In-person meeting on Clubhouse Porch and via Zoom

Meeting called to order at 7pm by co-president David Whitehouse. New members attending the meeting were introduced.

Membership report by Marie Rape:

- Currently a total of 59 families (85 individuals) have joined the club and paid dues this year.
- We had 4 new families who joined the garden club since the last report (2 in Aug, 2 in Sept).
- Members reminded that dues for 2021-22 need to be paid by November if want to vote in upcoming election of leadership for club.
- Those families that have paid dues in Aug / Sept 2021 will count toward dues for 2021-22 year.

Finance Report by Scott Kizer:

- As of the end of August, the club's account had a balance of \$3684.
- There has been \$716 income YTD (this does not yet include the plant sale)
- There has been \$2651 in expenses YTD

Plant Sale Report by David Whitehouse (Liz Rolison unable to join the meeting):

- The plant sale ends 9/14/21 so place your orders by end of tonight
- Close to \$1000 in profits from plant sale so far
- Delivery date for plants is Sept 24th
- 5 volunteers already in place to assist with truck unload and handing out orders

Fall Dinner

- David expressed concern over hosting Harvest Dinner in late October 2021 due to COVID, asked for input from the members in attendance (in person and via Zoom).
- Vote taken on whether or not to hold dinner in 2021. Most members not comfortable holding the dinner this year, recommended postponing till Spring 2022 (Spring Kick-Off Dinner).

Sponsorship of Future Farmers of America (FFA)

- David read aloud a letter he received from the FFA club at Seaforth High School. The FFA club is asking the Briar Chapel Garden Club to sponsor their chapter with a \$100 donation.
- David asked for thoughts on supporting FFA. One member recommended that if we support the FFA chapter at Seaforth HS that we should also support the chapter at Northwood.
- A motion was made to sponsor the FFA chapters at both local Chatham HS with each receiving a \$100 donation. The BCGC voted and the motion passed.
- The Seaforth FFA chapter is interested in identifying HS students in the BC neighborhood to participate in a garden clean up day. We will work with Jenna to organize the event.

Leadership Report by David

- Reminder to the club, David will step down from President role Jan 1, 2022. We need others in the club to step up to the President role (or 2 co-presidents). If no one comes forward, the club **will not be able to continue and** all funds and the gardens will be turned over to the HOA.
- Marie Rape and Scott Kizer have volunteered to remain in their roles as Secretary and Treasurer.
- Nominations will be made at the October BCGC meeting and a vote in November.

Planting Report by David and Sue

- We have a lot of seeds for fall planting: lettuces, greens, kale, collards, snap peas
- We also plan to plant beats, garlic, onions
- Need to get the rows ready – clear old growth and weed; may plant some cover crop
- Need to pull tomatoes, black eyed peas (will leave plants that are still producing – eggplants, peppers, some beans)
- Will plan to have 2 workdays this weekend:
 - Boulder at 9:30 AM on 9/18
 - Briar Patch at 9:30 AM on 9/19
- Flower group will meet after today's meeting to plan some workdays to remove old plants
- David advised not to cut back the Milkweed, just prop them up with stakes / ties for now.
- David will be meeting with Myatt on Weds 9/15 AM to talk about the water leak around the Boulder garden.

Compost

- Compost collection using the buckets with blue lids is no longer active in the BC Gardens.
- Place large stalks from flowers or viny plants (e.g., morning glory) in a pile next to / near compost bins rather than inside the bins for now.
- Leadership will look at the compost bins this weekend to see what can be done to turn it over as it has gotten very large and difficult to manage.

Minutes prepared by Marie Rape, BCGC Secretary