

Briar Chapel Garden Club (BCGC) Meeting Minutes

July 13, 2021

In-person meeting at Clubhouse:

Meeting called to order at 7pm by co-president David Whitehouse. Introductions were made for all in attendance including several new members.

David reminded the group that we will need someone to step forward to take his leadership role as Co-president by end of the year as he will be stepping down. The club must have the role filled in order to continue.

Finance Report: The treasurer provided the June 2021 report:

- Funds are in a checking account.
- Large rototiller repair by Catherine Trask is almost finished. We could sell it but likely would get little for it. We can keep it for big jobs
- CURRENT BALANCE \$3,794.08
 - JUNE INCOME \$102.36
 - INCOME YTD \$579.16
 - JUNE EXPENSES \$662.24
 - EXPENSES YTD \$2,404.41

Membership:

- Currently 54 families (76 individuals) paid dues to date this year.
- A member asked if the garden club membership list with contacts could be shared with others in the club. David explained that some members did not want their information shared. David will ask the membership if anyone would like to be on a shared list.
- Members reminded to visit the BCGC website (<https://www.briarchapelgardenclub.org/>) to read more about the club's activities, read minutes from meetings, review financial report and learn more about plants. A link to the garden club website is included in the welcome letter.

Produce in gardens

- Some produce brought to the meeting for members to take with them, many other items still available to be picked.
- David reminded everyone to pick vegetables so that the plants continue to produce.
- Gardens currently have the following ready and available for picking:
 - Eggplant (when 8 inches long), zucchini, yellow squash, cucumber, tomatoes, some green beans.
- Blueberry bushes produced a few berries this year, likely more in years to come
- Fig tree producing but not yet ready to be picked
- Strawberries – discussed whether to divide them to avoid overcrowding, but consensus was that they were very good this year and we should leave them alone.

Social / Fundraising

- **Harvest Dinner:** Plans under way. Dan Taylor has agreed to cook the entre. The date for the event has been set for Sunday, October 24. Rick and Jenna Thompson are working on it and will be reaching out for volunteers.
- **Fall Plant Sale:** Rick is not in a position to do the fall fundraiser. Liz is willing to help (set up

online store) but needs someone to assist her (interface with vendor, set pricing and plants). Amber Umbel volunteered to help Liz. They will meet this weekend to learn what is needed.

- **Other fundraising ideas raised:**

- Silent auction, possibly at Harvest Dinner (get donations from local garden stores)
- Create a dried herb mix from several of the herbs available in abundance in the garden and sell to Garden Club members and/or wider BC community (Catherine familiar with process and has equipment to use)
- T-Shirts with garden club logo (likely only will sell to club members)
- Set up an educational session to teach others about herbs

Planting:

- Some members have not been able to meet weeding expectations so we need others to take over their areas/rows. David will share by email the latest needs for weeding.
- Green beans at Boulder not doing well, may not get enough water. Sue will adjust watering.
- All lettuce at Boulder that is bolting needs to be pulled except 2 beds: Nevada lettuce in front bed and one at back by Shed.
- Additional plants the members would like for fall / winter growing season:
 - Onions
 - Garlic
 - Leeks
 - Kale
 - Tree Collards
 - Carrots (be sure to space well)
 - Scallions (try planting in pots to contain them)
 - More cover crops (sugar snap peas) for the fall
 - Beets didn't come up so will need to re-plant
 - More lettuce in September for fall / winter crop
 - Next year's sugar snap peas need to wait till February
 - Use pots along edge of garden to grow garlic, allow to flower

Trash/Compost

- Proposal by Linda King-Thomas:
 - Her church is collecting compost and willing to take weeds and items we don't want in our garden compost. They are also willing to take yard waste. She will put out separate buckets at the gardens to collect the extra items along with instructions.
 - Linda will buy 4 buckets from Lowes to be reimbursed from BCGC.
 - Sue will prepare signage

Minutes prepared by Marie Rape, BCGC Secretary