

Briar Chapel Garden Club Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2020

Zoom Meeting: The co-President, David Whitehouse, called the meeting to order at 7pm. David reports that he plans to hold future meetings of the garden club by Zoom until concerns about COVID 19 resolve. Meetings will continue to be held monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. They will be announced in advance by email.

Membership Update: A few new families joined since the last meeting. There are currently 83 members consisting of 63 families.

Finance Report: None (Marci was not able to join the meeting tonight)

Social Activities: No new information to share at this time.

Irrigation Lines: The new lines have been run and we soon all of them will be working, just finishing up the line at Briar Patch herb garden.

Vegetables:

- A new member grew some tomatoes from seed (new variety), will plant tomorrow.
- Peppers, Eggplants and Sweet potatoes are planted now.
- Black eyed peas and lima beans are growing well.
- A few red onions are coming along at Briar
- Pulled a number of good number of good beets at Briar, will wait till fall to plant more
- Lettuce is still pickable at Boulder
- Will have garlic soon. David will send an email to the club when it is picked and ready.
- Sue is operating team tomato – she has 4-5 people who are keeping them tied up and pulling off the suckers
- Kale in back bed is still producing – will plan to leave it there for now
- Beans are coming along nicely
- Bed with turnips may be used to plant more cow peas
- Any root vegetable that is no longer pickable should be left in the ground as it helps improve the soil. Any plant that is bolting should be left to flower as it helps with pollination.

Flowers and Fruit:

- The fig tree is coming along, producing a lot of small figs right now
- Flowers are looking good in both gardens

Weeding: There is a huge need for people to weed the gardens and keep the weeds under control. Members are encouraged to pick any weeds they see, especially in the tomato and pepper rows in Boulder. There are a few rows at Briar that can be adopted for weeding. The sweet potato area was assigned to new member Wenyan.

Trash and Garden Waste: Refuse/waste at Briar was hauled to the dump. We plan to stay on top of garden debris going forward to avoid having voles and critters making homes in the garden. Plan to have 2 garbage cans at each garden, 1 for trash and 1 for weeds/garden waste. The cans will be clearly marked. We will need members to help with hauling off the trash (either take home or take to clubhouse trash cans).

Poison Ivy: Dave and Michael will spray the poison ivy in Boulder this week (near shed).

Compost: If pull weeds, leave them in a pile next to compost rather than inside it. The weeds will be left to dry out in the sun and to kill the seeds. Once they dry out and are ready, Michael will add it to the compost.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm

Minutes prepared by Marie Rape, BCGC Secretary