

APRIL 30, 2012 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES – COMMON GROUND GARDEN

1. The meeting began with Jan Weisbrod, V.P. for Common Ground Community Garden, introducing the process that has brought us to this point.

The library provides the following for the garden: the space, the insurance, and the water

2. DESIGN

Jenny Hamilton conveyed the evolution of the garden's design, beginning with early drawings and concluding with the current garden concept.

- the current lay out still has a few possible changes to be made
- there are a few guidelines set out by the various groups that are involved in this process

a. CPL

a grassy area must be available for the library to use for their various outdoor functions, such as Story Time

there is to be no sod removal or digging on library property
the sprinkler system must not be covered over

b. City Parks

there are to be no fences
there will be height restrictions on structures that are a part of the garden (max 1.2 metres)
we must follow the Calgary Horticultural Society's guidelines

c. Design Group

the pathways within the garden will be accessible. Pathways will be either 2 feet or 4 feet in width
safety measures must be followed
the garden will be modular/pre-built
as many as possible will have garden beds
there will be a place for tool storage
composters will be provided

Re: the garden beds

- 36 4' x 8' beds
- 5 4' x 4' beds
- 4 24" high raised beds
- 2 trellis planters

misc. items:

- the library will prune back plants belonging to the library
- re: water the eaves troughs may be modified to drain into rain barrels and the heads on the sprinklers may be modified to accept attachments. Two of the four sprinklers on the property are within the garden area. Hoses will be available for use.
- shed -- any shed that may be used cannot be attached to the building and must maintain a low profile (not be an eye-sore)

3. MEMBERSHIP

- an update on our membership was given by Nicole Sundset. We now have about 78 names on our list.
- an email has been sent out inviting all those on the list to indicate their desire for a plot, shared plot, special needs, volunteer availability, etc..
- plots will be allotted first to those who are volunteering and second by lottery

4. WEBSITE

Jack Burden presented our website. He and Jan will be the administrators for the site.

- there is a link on the website for "Bed Requests" where one can go to sign up for a plot
- a "calendar of events" will eventually be added to the site
- it is hoped that a Facebook page will also be set up
- the site is still developing

5. TIMELINE

- Jenny will be emailing the timeline for site prep and building.
- it is hoped that members can commit to a 2 hour slot; 10 -12 or 12 - 2 on May 12,13,19,20,21,26 or June 2
- a signup sheet for those dates were passed around

We also had City of Calgary employee present to answer some questions re: soil, delivery, delivery time frames, and soil mixtures