

Berkeley Garden Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday April 8, 2018

Attendees: Katherine, Anne, James, Miyako, Maurice, Marilyn, Lara, Phil W., Peter, Tom, Ira, Richard P., Norma, Jo

Item	Brief Recap	Action	Follow Up	Due
Welcoming new people	The new people were Lara, who has attended a couple of meetings in the past, Marilyn and James. All are parents of small children and are interested in the Children's garden.	We went around the circle introducing ourselves		
Report on ramp renovation plus other related repairs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anne reported that the stairway railing near the new ramp would be in place in the next couple of weeks. 2. The Berkeley landscaper will lay lawn sod on the North lawn after which seed can be sown. 3. The walkways are to be professionally repaired including the stone walkway bordering the slope area on the North Lawn. 4. The broken stone stairways leading into "the pit" are to be replaced. The railings will remain and the work will not impact the garden beds adjacent to the stairs. 5. Some additional furniture to replace furniture broken last summer has been ordered. A bench, another table and some chairs are included. 			
Belgium stones	<p>Anne reported that Belgium stones are being dug up at Travers Park because of that park renovation. There was discussion and interest in obtaining them for use in our garden. Peter introduced the idea of utilizing the stones as tree surrounds on the street as The Jewish Center has. He felt we should get them before they disappear and then find uses for them. Phil also expressed interest and volunteered to help transport the stones.</p> <p>Norma mentioned that there are nice stones being dug up in our garden due to the ramp work. She asked if we could collect them.</p>	<p>Anne will contact Danny Dromm to see if the stones are available and whether we can get them.</p> <p>Katherine to ask the workmen about taking stones</p>		
Children's Garden	<p>There was considerable discussion about the children's garden.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lara proposed that the "maintenance" plot near the 78th St. ramp remain a children's garden area. That plot was assigned to parents as a temporary replacement area when the ramp work was due to begin. 2. No one in the meeting objected to the parents continuing to maintain that plot. 			

Item	BRIEF RECAP	ACTION	Follow Up Person	Due DATE
	<p>3.The parents in attendance are also interested in volunteering to help resurrect the original Children's Garden that Peg and Tom Russell have run for several years in conjunction with Children's Circle, and which was destroyed as a result of the ramp repair.</p> <p>4. We referred Marilyn, James and Lara to Peg and Tom to discuss ideas and ways that they might be involved in the reconstruction and ongoing care of that garden area.</p> <p>5. Tom was very clear that what is most needed is topsoil to get the garden started again. He also wants the tree that was there replaced. Anne asked that any new tree be small to protect the walls from root invasion.</p>	<p>Anne said that the Board would help to finance the original Children's Garden and would check about any liability issues, which might arise if children's furniture, which was suggested, is part of the plan.</p>	<p>Anne requested that the Children's Garden plans/ financial needs be submitted to her by April 24th.</p>	
Budget	<p>Anne asked that the Garden Committee submit a list of what we need funded in the coming year Currently the Garden Committee has \$197 in petty cash</p>	<p>At the next meeting please come prepared to help generate a list</p>		
Miscellaneous	<p>1. Gardeners are interested in getting compost from Big Reuse and would like Marina to send out the application information. People can join together ad hoc to pick up compost.</p> <p>2. Compost from Big Reuse is available in small amounts at The Farmers Market for the next two Sundays. Bring your own container.</p> <p>3. We decided at the next meeting to talk about general work dates in the garden. It is too early to do that now. Gardeners are just beginning to clean individual plots this month.</p> <p>4. Jo asked if orders of topsoil could be dumped elsewhere but the slope. It was decided that the slope, while not ideal, is really the only place. Ira has ferns to offer. Tom will need plant donations Cooperative way to end the meeting!</p>	<p>Request that Marina send Big Reuse information to everyone. Those that are interested can make plans to do pickups.</p>		

Next Meeting: Sunday May 6, 4 pm