

Garden Committee Meeting

Sunday 4/26/15 4:00 PM

Attendees: Katherine, Peter, Stephen, Richard P., Sandra, Rodica, Norma, Jo, Valerie

MINUTES

Item	Brief Recap	Action	Follow Up
Reviewing and deciding on Sandra's garden photo notecards as a fundraising element	<p>Sandra's garden photo notecards will be sold as a fundraising element at the Berkeley during the 25th Jackson Heights Beautification Garden Tour on June 14, Sunday. Board president Anne Eckhardt okayed selling the cards in the Berkeley garden during the tour as long as proceeds go back to the garden.</p> <p>Stephen will work with Sandra on choice of images</p> <p>If cards sell then more will be printed to sell at both the annual garden and December holiday parties.</p>	<p>\$100 outlay from GC; 75 cards will be printed—25 each of 3 selected images; card package of 3 different images will be priced at \$5-\$7.</p>	<p>Sandra with Stephen's help</p>
Organizing the garden tour	<p>Last year Kayhan organized the garden tour. She asked for 3-4 volunteers per shift for 2 shifts. Each shift was 2-3 hrs. The first crew came early to help set up and the second crew stayed late to clean up. Refreshments were provided for those touring the garden.</p> <p>This year's tour is Sat & Sun June 13,14. Our Garden will be open on Sunday</p> <p>Last year was a success and we will follow Kayhan's model this year. Some at the April meeting already volunteered.</p> <p>Refreshments will be home baked cookies and lemonade.</p>	<p>Tour day volunteers so far are: Sandra, Richard P., Norma, Peter, Stephen. Valerie to provide Lemonade</p>	<p>Katherine will organize</p>

Organizing how/where to buy new plants for stone planters	<p>It was decided that the stone beds might already be full to capacity with existing plants, and to check growth of established plants in mid-May to reassess if any more plants should be added.</p> <p>Sandra suggested having one person take care of the stone beds. It was decided to leave care of beds as is: Most stone beds are being cared for already by gardeners who have adjacent alcove plots.</p> <p>Peter suggested that compost and/or fertilizer and mulch should be added to beds since nutrients in the soil are quickly leached out over a season.</p>	<p>Table any trips to market for new plants until mid-to late May.</p> <p>A couple of stone beds could use a volunteer.</p>	<p>Revisit buying plants at the next meeting</p> <p>make sure each stone bed has a caretaker</p>
A new garden member and peonies	Valerie Barnett has joined the garden committee, and has donated 12 peony plants.	Valerie and Rodica will work together	
Donated tools update	GC has not yet heard back from the woman who offered to donate garden tools.	waiting	
Purchasing a lady bug kit	<p>Report by Sandra: There is risk of aggressive lady bug strains if packets of them are purchased to control aphids and other plant diseases.</p> <p>Lady bug favorites: Composite flowers like Aster, Cone Flower, Sunflower, and Yarrow. Other species they are fond of include: Alyssum, Asclepias, the milkweeds and Penstemon. Additionally, favorite edibles include: cilantro, carrots, dill, and chives.</p> <p>Lacewings like: Dill, cilantro, and annuals such as cosmos</p>	Gardeners are encouraged to follow list of plant suggestions if they want to attract lady bugs and lace wings to their plots for pest control	
Purchasing yarrow and milkweed for plots to support butterfly colonies	Report by Richard P: Last season, Richard planted a variety of milkweed species, and some of the plants did well. He said it's too early to asses if the plants are coming back.	assess further into the season	.
Clay pot rule	Discussion about allowing other than clay pots in garden as there are so many attractive fiber glass pots on the market.	The current rule about clay pots only will remain	

3 New trees	<p>Two new trees were planted courtesy of NY Free Trees, a Witch Hazel and a Japanese Snowbell. A Cherry Tree donated by Maurice was also planted. All are very young and small and doing well.</p> <p>Howie contacted regarding care of the 3 trees planted last season</p>	Use small amounts of 5-10-5 organic fertilizer scratched into surface at tree base	Katherine will order 5-10- 5 and apply it
Miscellaneous	<p>Suggestion for garden shrubbery has been tabled unless renewed interest is shown.</p> <p>Suggestion by Rodica: To have a flea market to benefit the garden</p> <p>Concern about harmful red wiggly worms in the compost and the condition of the South compost bin. Is anyone even using that bin?</p> <p>Ivy wall: Norma is pruning and cleaning up the ivy. Sandra found out that the ivy cannot be woven tightly as it hurts both ivy and fence</p>	<p>Tom</p> <p>Talk to Marina about current plans</p> <p>contact Sandy and Liz</p> <p>Monthly weaving needed</p>	<p>Katherine</p> <p>A work date needs to be set</p>

Next Meeting

MAY 17 4PM