

HOLDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEE MINUTES (Amended)

April 22, 2019

Mission Statement:

The Holden Community Garden Committee is a volunteer organization working to provide and support Holden residents, individually and collectively, to grow food, flowers, fruits, and herbs on town land including the redeveloped property on Highland Street. Our efforts will enable residents to enjoy the beauty of our town while developing a sense of community through cooperative action, learning about sustainable and environmentally conscious gardening as well as ethical harvesting.

The Holden Community Garden Committee also exists to foster the education of the children of Holden through the support of community gardens in local schools and community groups. These gardens will help to develop the appreciation of future generations for the importance of agriculture and responsible environmental practices, and provide education and positive experiences through gardening and physical activity.

In Attendance: Marcia Hastbacka, Chair: Members: Jessica Cosenza, Sarah Edmonstone, Mike Trigiano, Gina Tutela, Guest: Julie McCarthy

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

AGENDA:

Minutes of March 25, 2019

MOTION #1:

To approve 3-25-19 HCG Minutes

Motion voted and carried

NEW MEMBER

Julie McCarthy will be our new committee member. She completed the "Do Something" questionnaire and her name is being submitted to Peter Lukes as a member of the HCG committee.

UPDATE ON GARDEN APPLICATIONS

The 2019 Garden Applications have been posted on the Town of Holden website and Wendy and/or Abby will handle the completed applications as they come into the town office. Jess has contacted Steve Aquila for his assistance with any Rice School Condominium potential gardeners. Jess noted that the Senior Center was having a Health & Wellness Day and that might be a good idea to have applications and our poster there. Marcia will have signage on the lighted board at corner of Main & Shrewsbury Street. The committee set a deadline for May 22 for applications.

DPW

DPW will spread lime sometime during the next 2 weeks. They have notified us that they do have some metal roofing to replace the plastic roofing on the cisterns. Marcia will ask that they drop off the metal roofing onsite and Mike will take care of the replacement. Marcia will also ask that they put on the spigots and screens on all the cisterns. DPW has notified us that they have allocated \$1000. - \$1500. for supplies for the 2019-2020 season.

GARDEN HELPER FOR SARAH

Sarah asked for some help getting the fresh produce to the senior center as well as others who may need it. With 4 plots designated for community assistance last year, the task was overwhelming sometimes. Gina volunteers at the Food Pantry (3rd Friday of the month) and will check to find out how we can involve them. Since we are all aware of the task of distributing fresh produce, we need to keep it in mind if people volunteer to assist us,

UPDATE ON GRANTS

Jess discussed the grant from Fiskars Orange Project and was told the garden tools and gift card have been mailed to us. Jess was notified that her application for a Secretary's Award for Excellence for the Davis Hill Elementary School and Nicole Pisano (5th grade teacher) was selected. There will be an award ceremony at the Massachusetts State House on May 6th. MA AG In the Classroom also grants a \$300.00 monetary award that will be used for books. The application has been submitted and we are pending results.

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UPDATE ON DAVIS HILL

Jess noted that composting has started in the cafeteria. The students empty their leftover food into special barrels that are picked up by the composting company.

There was no Davis Hill Community Garden meeting in April, so nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Gina meet with a Boy Scout leader and explained the types of projects that we are interested in having completed by boy scouts. Many of the scouts are finishing up on their current projects, but the scoutmaster will keep us in mind for the future.

Julie will be working on the Girl Scout project with her troop at the garden site. She noted they will be re-working their plans as some of the past measurements need to be adjusted.

All members are aware that we would like to get the trail from the Davis Hill Garden to the roadway completed and keep that project at the forefront when we become aware of volunteer groups looking to assist us.

Cedar – raised beds. Jess will ask Mike for a materials list, so we can get started on building raised beds.

Publicity – Marcia will check with the Gale Free Library to see if we can leave some application forms.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Next meeting will be Monday, May 13, 2019 at 7:00 in the Starbard Building.

