

HOLDEN COMMUNITY GARDEN COMMITTEE

December 13, 2021

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: Jessica Cosenza, Chair; Members: Katye Brier, Aleel Grennan, Mike Trigiano, Gina Tutela; Guest: Conor Dillon

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm Via Zoom.

AGENDA

The minutes of the November 8, 2021 meeting were reviewed.

Motion #1

To approve the November 2021 HCG Minutes

Voted and Approved.

Budget & Sign Project Update

Katye discussed that Sunshine Sign has offered to update a quote that will reflect the DPW installing the posts and sign. She will get updated quotes and follow up with Jessica and John Woodsmall by email.

Jessica to clarify with the Town Hall office to see what is available for funds, as the committee was counting on the reimbursement from the Cultural Committee grant to lend towards future projects.

Girl Scout Update

Julie McCarthy unable to attend this meeting, no updates at this time.

Davis Hill/School Updates

Jessica reported that the Holden Garden Club grant will allow \$200 for a speaker in the spring to discuss and present a hands-on activity for the students to learn about soil science/soil health. This leaves the seating project without funds currently. Boy Scout Conor Dillon joined the call and presented rough ideas for projects to perhaps include building another picnic table, side seating, and an information kiosk

at the school. Conor estimated that he will need a minimum of \$300 which will need to be raised or donated.

Aleel presented her project idea for outdoor winter sewing stations of perennial seeds in milkjugs. She has the needed materials and can make plans to set this up at the school if they are interested.

Motion #2

To approve Jessica to send an email to Mr. Norton and school staff requesting consideration of the scout project, funding, and Aleel's offer to set up outdoor winter sewing stations at the garden.

Voted and Approved.

Grant Updates

Nothing new to report at this time. Members will continue to research grant opportunities as they arise. The Town Manager's office wishes to review any projects before applications are submitted.

Community Harvest Updates

No new updates, but Gina will continue to be available for collections and donations to the Wachusett Food Pantry throughout the winter months.

Old/New Business

Applications are available for 2022. Jessica reminded participants to submit their applications to the Town Manager's office.

Aleel is ready to move forward with the winter sewing at the garden as well. Jessica to let the DPW know that the milk jugs on site are intentional and should remain there.

NEXT MEETING: January 26 at 6pm via Zoom.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:30.