

Yellowknife Community Garden Collective

Annual General Meeting October 30, 2008

MINUTES

Quorum met: 24 members and 23 proxies for members.

Meeting started at 7:20 p.m.

1. Opening remarks –Tasha Stephenson, chair.
2. Approval of the agenda.
 - no amendments to the agenda.Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Joyce Gilchrist, seconded by Ruby Trudel.
Motion carried.
3. Introduction of board and description of positions.
 - kudos extended to Eve Peterson for work well done as membership coordinator
 - thank you extended to Dwayne Wohlgemuth for all his work as project manager in getting site 3 established
 - a) Site Managers – Dave Taylor (site 1) and Joel Gowman (site 2)
 - spring clean-up – there was not too much which needed to be done and all the work was completed
 - rototilling completed on schedule and turnout was good
 - chores went reasonably well. Grass cutting could have been done more often and compost turned more
 - new soil for site 1 delivered at short notice and members contacted to distribute the soil to the plots
 - fall clean-up was sparsely attended
 - projects not completed: composters not rebuilt and brush from tree removal still not dealt with
 - the records show some people did not do any work for the garden
 - weeding was generally done well but some people did not realize they were also supposed to weed around their plots
 - the locks were not always locked
 - projects for next year include:
 - to deal with the willows
 - rebuild the composters
 - replace the plant barrier along the fence
 - lift and move site 2 shed
 - Dave had initiated gardening evenings on Tuesdays and would like to continue holding these next season. It helps new members learn and members to meet other gardeners.
 - a copy of the report for site 1 by Dave Taylor is appended to the minutes
 - b) Publicity/PR report – Shannon Ripley
 - the publicity person is responsible for producing 2 newsletters per year, sending e-mails to the membership and advertising garden events
 - c) Education Coordinator's report – Shannon Ripley

- this year the YCGC paired with Ecology North to do workshops on northern gardening, backyard composting, canning and food preservation. The Yellowknife Community Foundation provided funding for these workshops

- Shannon extended her thanks to people who assisted in these workshops

d) Liaison Coordinator – Joel Gowman and Dave Taylor

- the liaison coordinator had resigned earlier in the season

- a thank you was extended to the site managers, Dave and Joel, who took over the tasks of the produce distribution lists

- Site 1 – 531 pounds of produce + 25 bags were donated

- Site 2 – just under 400 pounds of produce was donated. 9 out of 22 plots had not listed donations so this total may be higher

e) Secretary's report and Review of Minutes of 2007 AGM - Vera Raschke

- the amendments made to the by-laws at the 2007 AGM have been incorporated into the by-law and the new draft is available to the membership.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the 2007 AGM.

Moved by Dave Taylor, seconded by Tasha Stephenson. Motion carried.

f) Treasurer's report - Lisette Self (copy of treasurer's report appended to the minutes)

- the current bank balance is \$9,116.15.

- Site 3 has received donations of \$5,200 from the Northwest Power Corporation and \$15,000 from the City of Yellowknife

- expenditures for this year were higher than usual due to materials purchased to fix the shed

- capital assets include the sheds and the rototiller. They depreciate by 10% per year

- memberships and plot fees usually cover the annual operating costs

MOTION: To approve the financial report.

Moved by Fiona MacGregor, seconded by Lone Sorensen. Motion carried.

4. 2009 Membership and Plot Fees

MOTION: To maintain the current fees of \$20 per plot and \$10 per member for the upcoming year.

Moved by Shannon Ripley, seconded by Joyce Gilchrist . Motion carried.

5. Election of 2009 Board of Directors

Chair: Tasha Stephenson.

Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Co-chair: Dwayne Wohlgemuth.

Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Treasurer: Lisette Self.

Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Secretary: Vera Raschke.

Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Membership Coordinator: Eve Peterson.

Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Liaison Coordinator: Michelle Currimbhoy

Acclaimed.

Education Coordinator: Shannon Ripley.
Continuing on in position. Acclaimed.

Publicity/PR – Andrea Patenaude
Acclaimed.

Site Managers:
Site 1 – Dave Taylor
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Site 2 – Joel Gowman.
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

Site 3 – Wendy Lahey
Acclaimed.

Non-Board/Volunteer Positions:

- composting:
Site 1 - Gerald Enns & Joyce Gilchrist
Site 3 - Craig Scott

- assistant site manager:
Site 2 - Lone Sorensen

Projects for the upcoming year include:

- expansion of the Site 3 garden
- work with the City for future garden sites every 2 to 3 years
- working with schools and organizations interested in gardening. Shannon has worked with the Centre for Northern Families this past summer in developing a garden.
- maintenance and upkeep of sites
- by-laws – the updated draft by-laws need to be reviewed for any other recommended changes to be brought to the membership at the next AGM in order that all changes to the by-laws can be submitted at one time

- Gerald Enns brought up the topic of people who would like to donate their yards for people to garden in. It was suggested that this can be coordinated to be possible, starting with 6 yards and 6 gardeners.

MOTION: Move that the YCGC board look at coordinating how the concept of citizens donating gardens for gardeners to use would work and present the plan to the membership at the spring social.

Moved by Dwayne Wohlgemuth, seconded by Shannon Ripley. Motion carried.

5. Food Rescue/Composting – Ruby Trudel
Ruby attended the Homeless Coalition Forum in the spring of 2008. She identified a gap which exists for the homeless and subsequently Ruby and her husband, Laurin, formed a service called Food Rescue. Usable food goes to the landfill every day. They approached companies to donate this food rather than throw it out. The Food Donation Act was recently passed by the N.W.T. Legislative Assembly. This Act protects people who donate good food. From June to October, they have received food for 38 days which they donated to approximately 15 organizations. They have a 81.9% recovery rate of what they can donate. All the food is either used or composted and the boxes are recycled. The composters at the YCGC are being used to compost the produce. Ruby has requested that more composters be built at the YCGC site.

MOTION: Move that the YCGC welcome Ruby's project and support it by building more composters at the garden sites to accept the produce.
Moved by Tasha Stephenson, seconded by Joel Gowman. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.
Moved by Dave Taylor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.