

Yellowknife Community Garden Collective

Annual General Meeting October 27, 2009

MINUTES

Quorum met: 54 members and 26 proxies for members.
Meeting started at 7:15 p.m.

1. Opening remarks –Tasha Stephenson, chair.
2. Approval of the agenda.
 - Amendment – Caroline Lafontaine presentation on Permaculture changed to Self-fertilizing Garden.**MOTION:** To approve the agenda. Moved by Sandra Mann, seconded by Caroline Lafontaine. Motion carried
3. Approval of the 2008 AGM minutes
MOTION: To accept the minutes of the 2008 AGM. Moved by Rosella Stoesz, seconded by Michelle Currimbhoy. Motion carried
4. Introduction of board members, description of their positions and presentation of their reports

As many positions were open for elections, each member of the board summarized the tasks they performed during the year. The assembly was invited to fill the vacant positions. The reports were subsequently presented.

a) Chair – Tasha Stephenson – organizes board meetings, spring social and AGM
- usually 6-8 meetings per year
- works with City, GNWT and non-profit organizations

b) Co-chair – Dwayne Wohlgemuth – takes over duties of the chair when unavailable

c) Secretary – Vera Raschke – takes minutes of board meetings and AGM and posts the AGM on the website for members

d) Membership – Eve Petersen – maintains the membership list. Currently there is a waitlist for plots in site 3. Plots are available in sites 1 and 2. If interested in flower gardening, the Garden of Hope behind City Hall is looking for volunteers to help.
- Eve mentioned a donation box was placed on the sign-in desk for donations to go to the Food Rescue Program for gas money. (At the end of the meeting it was reported that \$16.00 was collected.)

e) Education Coordinator – Shannon Ripley – events organized this year were a February seed party with 25 people in attendance to learn about seeds and order seeds. In April, a composting workshop was held in conjunction with Ecology North for about 50 people. In May, a session with Lone Sorensen on how to get garden growing by prepping soil. In September, a fall harvest fair and canning workshop was successful. Suggestions for future workshops are safety in gardening, companion planting, and preserve or recipe swap.
- TY to Catherine for photo show of garden pictures.
- TY to Orest for his display of grains.
- Weledeh garden – Merrill Dean has approached the YCGC to make part of the school grounds into a garden.

Members to be garden buddies with students or families. Info from site 3 can be used to start this site. Land is secured and available to use. \$5000 from site 3 can be used to start this garden.

f) Publicity – Andrea – puts together and sends out spring and fall newsletters
- responsible for sending out general notices to membership through listserv
- the media contact for YCGC

g) Site Managers
- Site 1: Dave Taylor
- site 1 produced the most produce this year according to what was recorded.
- spring clean-up done
- 4 people tilled both sides
- fall clean-up rained out
- brush from tree removal still needs to be done

- new composters built
- experimented with worms in compost

- Site 2: Joel Gowman
- things went well with good participation with chores
- work needed on composting
- next summer shed to be raised onto a better foundation
- by October 9th plots still need to be harvested

- Site 3: Wendy Lahey
- TY to Dwayne who put in over 1,000 hours of work to get site 3 up and running
- to thank Dwayne for his work it was suggested to bring donations of frozen meals, houseplants, berries in the spring
- TY to Shannon and Craig for assistance when Wendy was absent
- fall clean-up in the rain
- raised beds therefore no rototilling required
- soil ready to be spread in the spring
- good amount of donations

h) Liaison Coordinator – Michelle Currimbhoy

- responsible for the food donations to community groups
- 8 organizations listed
- ¼ section of each plot donated
- the section will move clockwise next season
- statistics by site, by groups, by produce types is provided in attached donations report
- garden matching – 1 successful match

i) Treasurer – Lisette Self (treasurer's report appended to minutes)

- busier this year due to building site 3
- \$6,226.44 in bank as of Sept.21, 2009 (treasurer's report appended to minutes)
- outstanding expenses – post box fee paid \$31.25 in October.
- water bill to be paid in December
- insurance due in January
- reimbursement to members for expenses \$200
- will leave current balance at \$4426.00
- usually break even with membership fees and expenses
- try to keep a contingency fund of \$1,000
- site 3 expenses = \$21,925.14

MOTION: To approve financial statement.

Moved by Wendy Lahey, seconded by Caroline Lafontaine. All in favour.

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

Moved by Tasha, seconded by Christine. All in favour.

5. Election of Board for 2010

- Chair – Shannon Ripley
Acclaimed.
- Co-chair – Dwayne Wohlgemuth
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.
- Treasurer – Gerald
Acclaimed.
- Secretary – Vera Raschke
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.
- Membership – Eve Petersen
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.
- Education – Caroline Lafontaine
Acclaimed.
- Publicity – Dan Benoit
Acclaimed.
- Site 1 Manager – Dave Taylor
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.

- Site 2 Manager – Jeroen Slagter (unconfirmed)
Acclaimed.
- Site 3 Manager – Craig Scott, Assistant Site Manager - Vince Casey
Acclaimed.
- Liaison Coordinator – Michelle Currimbhoy
Continuing in the position. Acclaimed.
- Rosella Stoesz – assistant to Shannon for new Weledeh garden

6. New Garden Expansion Presentation – Shannon Ripley

- Mary Murphy garden site – the garden is located behind the seniors' home and contains approximately 6 plots. This is an initiative between the Youth Ecology Club and members of YCGC and harvested about 50 lbs of potatoes. Thanks to Sandra who volunteered at this garden. Highlight of the gardening season was the interaction with the seniors.
- the membership was in agreement that this garden initiative should be pursued.
- YCGC will pursue creation of a new community garden on land set aside by the Weledeh School; Principal Merrill Dean is the initiator of the plan and has maintenance staff & other teachers on side; school has a meal program that could accept food donations; area is inside fenced playground near 52 Ave to the south of Weledeh school
- will set up a buddy system with the students at the school
- need to check to see if insurance liability will cover this site
- need to set up a Memorandum of Understanding with Weledeh School

7. Food Rescue/Composting – LaurinTrudel

- the Food Rescue Program began in June 2008. Collect food from various establishments such as food stores and warehouses. Last month Extra Foods came on board.
- in the process of starting an independent facility off Old Airport Road. Matrix Aviation donated the facility, Central Mechanical donated the site, BHP donating coolers and Ray Fan Electric donating electrical work. A temporary site for one year. Going to City Council in spring to request permission to continue in temporary building.
- distribute food daily to 20 agencies by van loaned by the YK Seniors but it has seen its day and they are looking for a new vehicle.
- previously added their compost to the YCGC composters but now composting at the City compost site.
- Food Donation Act removes liability for people donating food
- established as a society in May 2008 with a board of directors of 8 people. Want to apply for charitable status.

8. Presentations

a) Self-fertilizing gardens – Power Point presentation by Caroline Lafontaine, Site 1, Plot 11

- Caroline presented the foundations of this type of gardening and the various steps involved in her team's plot from the preparation of the plot for growth to the overwintering requirements
- self-fertilizing gardens are approached as a garden which is an ecosystem within itself
- the board decided to assign an area of Site 1 as a permaculture area that will not be rototilled starting in 2010. Any other members interested in this type of gardening will have plots assigned in Site 1. Members to designate at spring social so they can be assigned neighbouring plots in Site 1.

b) Grain growing experiment – Orest Watsyk.

- Orest experimented with various types of grains in experimental plots in and around Yellowknife. Grains can grow in the north. Does the collective want to present the results at the meeting in Ontario. A question that the board should answer.

Meeting adjourned.

Moved by Dan.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

YELLOWKNIFE COMMUNITY
GARDEN COLLECTIVE
Financial Statement
September 21, 2009

Report to AGM – October 27, 2009

This year I broke down the Statement so that the Site 3 costs were separate from the rest of the sites so Members could see how much a new site costs.

We are in a good financial position and should be able to operate without a deficit using the existing revenue structure that we are now using.

The bank balance as at September 21, 2009 is \$6,226.44.

There are cheques for the post office for \$131.25, water approximately \$700; insurance approximately \$727 based on a 10% increase per year and outstanding invoice of \$200 to be paid to members. Approximate total of expenses to be paid is \$1800.00. Which leaves a balance of about \$4,426.00. There is about \$1,500 of this money assigned for Site 3.

We have a deposit of \$5,040 to be made that was received after September 21.

I would like the membership to approve the Financial Statement as provided to you.

Lisette Self
Treasurer

SOC1237

Yellowknife Community Garden Collective

BALANCE SHEET

As at September 21, 2009

ASSETS

CURRENT

Cash \$ 6,226.44
\$ 6,226.44

NON-CURRENT

Capital Assets \$ 4,655.00
Total Assets \$10,881.44
=====

NET ASSETS

Capital Assets \$ 4,655.00
Accumulated Surplus \$ 6,226.44
Total Net Assets \$10,881.44
=====

Statement of Revenue and Expenditure

For the year ended September 21, 2009

REVENUE

Membership \$ 2,490.00
Miscellaneous \$ 20.00
Contributions \$18,275.00
Bank Interest \$ 2.96
\$20,787.96

EXPENDITURES

Water \$ 728.96
AGM/Social Expenses \$ 112.65
Insurance \$ 661.00
Site Expense \$ 4.92
Lease All Sites \$ 205.00
By-Law Expense \$ 40.00
Sub-Total \$ 1,752.53

Site 3 Expenses:

Soil \$10,463.25
Fence \$ 7,313.25
Bob Cat \$ 147.00
Lumber \$ 2,228.85
Soil Sampling \$ 372.75
Shed \$ 1,067.89
Picnic Table \$ 184.79
Miscellaneous \$ 147.36
Sub - total \$21,925.14
\$23,677.67

Total Loss \$(2,769.78)
Accumulated Surplus - Opening \$ 9,116.15

Accumulated Surplus - Closing \$ 6,226.44
=====

Lisette Self
YCGC Treasurer

Tasha Stephenson
YCGC Chair

Site 1 Manager Report – Dave Taylor

Spring cleanup It all got done except the compost which was still frozen, 10 of 22 sites were represented. **The tilling** was completed. Only 4 people signed up for the 8 slots but the 4 of them managed to get it all done anyway.

Chores went reasonably well. I think the grass cutting could have been done more often There is no record of plots 1, 16 and 19 doing spring, fall or a chore. There was no response to my queries to these people.

Fall cleanup was rained out. I emailed some people and the work was done over the following week.

Projects

- There were no volunteers to deal with the brush left behind from the tree removal done by the city last year.
- There were some composters built outside the fence. Thanks Gerald.
- I had requested someone find a donation of landscaping fabric to place outside the garden but none was forthcoming so that fabric did not get replaced.

Donations I have a record of all plots making a donation except for 15.

Next year:

- Deal with willows
- Rebuild some composters
- Replace the plant barrier along the fence

Donations per Site (2009)

Site	Sum of Lbs	Sum of Bags
1	605	42
2	424	10
3	435	21
Grand Total	1,463	73

Donations per Site (2008)

Site	Sum of Lbs	Sum of Bags
1	561	27
2	395	8
Grand Total	956	35

Donations by Food Security Org

Food Security Org	Sum of Lbs	Sum of Bags
Abe Miller	81	7
Allison McAteer House	201	9
Aven Manor	208	9
Centre for Northern Families community	311 11	15
Deline		2
feast	11	
Food Bank	98	
friend		1
Native Women's' Assoc.	25	
Salvation Army	442	27
Side Door	19	2
Stanton Hospital	3	1
Yellowknife Day Care	15	
unknown	40	
Grand Total	1,463	73