

## **Minutes of the Hyatt Park Community Garden General Spring Meeting March 3, 2013**

The meeting was called to order at 11:15 am in the Mary Prangley room of the Hyattsville Municipal Building. There were about 26 people in attendance.

Introductions: The Executive Committee was introduced

CoLeaders-Julia Stadler, Gretchen Imahori

Treasurer-Ryan Sours

Secretary-Joe Buriel

Plot Coordinator-Laura Reams

All garden members present introduced themselves.

Overview of document revisions:

Gretchen went over some highlights of the changes made by the Executive Committee to the By-Laws, Rules, Application form, as well as new documents concerning Plot Monitoring. Plot monitoring would be done every 2-3 weeks to ensure compliance with the Rules. If deficiencies are found, notification would be given and there would be a one week period in which to address them. Failure to comply would result in forfeiture of one's plot.

New Website:

Ryan Sours presented the new website for the garden. It contains all pertinent documents such as By-Laws, Rules, etc. The online application allows for filling out and submitting on-line with the option to pay using Pay Pal. In addition, there is a map of the garden plots with identification of plot owners. Other features include a Calendar section listing pertinent meetings, workdays, etc. and a section for email contacting of various group entities.

Elimination of Yahoo Group Site:

The Yahoo Group Site would be eliminated due in part to its unreliability as a means to disseminate important garden information. Official garden information would be done directly through individual emails to each garden member. The option of forming another group for garden interactions (such as through Google) was left open.

Introduction of Team Leaders for Work Day Tasks: Team Leaders introduced themselves. Gardeners can sign up for work days through the Calendar on the Web Site.

Compost-Janean Romines explained the new system for identifying which bin to use for garden waste (1-for use, 2-in process, 3-most composted and ready for return to garden). Items which should be bundled and put out for Monday garden waste pick-up by the City included tomatoes, okra, sunflowers and diseased plants. Non-vegetative trash such as plastics, tags, wires, etc. should be placed in trash bins

provided and put out for Friday pick-up by the City. Clippers and twine will be found in the shed for use in bundling plants to be discarded and for cutting up all plant material before it's placed into the compost bin.

Perimeter-Dave Roeder talked about plans for maintaining the perimeter of the garden to keep it free of encroaching grass. Gardeners could sign-up using the Web Site. He also talked about plans to place native insect houses around the perimeter of the garden.

Landscaping, Maintenance and Bugs-Millard (Smitty) Smith talked about plans to maintain paths within the garden. He spent most of his allotted time talking about specific garden pests and how to deal with them.

End of Season Garden Party:

There was a discussion of when the end of season garden party should be held to ensure best attendance. A committee was formed (Laura Reams, Dan and Bethany Meola) to explore time and place for the next garden picnic. Appreciation was expressed to Nyere Hollingsworth for all his efforts in organizing past picnics.

Question and Answer:

Among the topics discussed during the Question and Answer session were:

- Setting the dates for meetings well in advance.
- Possible group order for Leaf Grow (College Park delivery ?).
- Sinage for the garden and compost piles.

The meeting was adjourned at around 11:45 am.

Submitted by Joe Buriel, Secretary.