

CCGA Membership Meeting, Friday August 18th, 6:30pm at Enlace Garden, 4172 W. 25th Street

Eight people attended the CCGA coordinating meeting.

In attendance:

Mamie Gray, North Lawndale Greening Committee

Julie Samuels, CCGA Membership Comm.

JW Glass, Greenhouse Garden, CCGA Communications Comm.

Cordia Pugh, Hermitage Garden, (Englewood)

Pat Hart, Sherwood Peace Garden & Paradise Garden

Lorraine Kells – (Lakeview);

Robert Hart, Paradise Garden and VA Garden

Maria Herrerra, Enlace Gardens (our Host)

Handouts:

- meeting agenda;
- draft agenda for membership retreat;

NOTE: All CCGA coordinating meeting minutes are available for you to review on the website. Look under the menu tree at 'Who We Are' and then 'CCGA Organization' and you will see links here for the coordinating committee documents.

1. - Call to Order & Welcome, Agenda Review

The meeting started around 6:45pm with a call for introductions by Julie Samuels, who facilitated the meeting. Everyone was asked to introduce themselves and after going around the table Lorraine K. was enrolled as time-keeper and JW Glass as note-taker.

A change was made to the agenda, we discussed the September 30th planning/membership retreat first and then the 2018 Conference Planning.

2 - Sept. 30, 2017 Planning/Membership Retreat

- JW Glass presented the previously prepared retreat agenda and reviewed the salient points with the team;
- there were many questions about the various sessions and time break-down of the time allocation of the two major areas: the self-assessment and the future goals (governance and membership);
- Lorraine K. suggested that governance be presented in how it supports what CCGA is doing now, which we discussed;
- Cordia P. had several questions about the logistics for the retreat, specifically the management of the floor-time and movement between sessions;
- some discussions about development or fund-raising were oriented around CCGA being a conduit for small micro-grants to gardens like the old Openlands mini-grant program, Pat H. presented several ideas for distributing funds to community gardens;
- a long discussion about possible venues for the retreat was held, possible venues were:
 - The Pie Patch in Engelwood;
 - North Park Nature Center (Julie will check);
 - Humboldt Park fieldhouse (JW will check);
 - Garfield Park Conservatory (JW will check with Mattie);
 - meeting room above the new Christy Webber shop on west Chicago Ave. (JW wil check);
- we discussed needing a projector to display documents for everyone to see;
- we need to post the relevant documents to help attendees prepare for the retreat;
- we discussed the need to have floor leaders for the 3 main sessions at the retreat (which Cordia stressed was important to have decided beforehand):
 - self-assessment exercise;
 - governance model presentation;
 - membership model presentation;
- providing food or lunch was discussed, the consensus was that we could budget and provide lunch and it would be dependent upon the final venue, JW mentioned that Amy O. had offered communicating with a vendor she had worked with for possibly catering the event;

TO-DO:

- remind all CCGAers of the retreat;
- secure and finalize the venue, all follow-up via email, need done by Labor Day weekend;
- secure projector;
- post preparation documents in support of the retreat on the website;
- decide about food/lunch for the retreat;
- line-up facilitators for the 3 main sessions;

3. - 2018 Conference Planning

- we discussed the possible venues for the 2018 conference for the 1st Saturday in March (Saturday March 3rd, 2018);
- venue progress has been slow, our consensus was that an educational institution with classrooms was our best target venue, all the possible educational institutions were discussed;
- IIT, UIC were targeted as prime venue candidates, we did not have solid assignments from attendees as to who would approach each venue
- a possible theme was discussed, no solid ideas emerged but all were asked to think about;

TO-DO:

- follow up with and finalize venue for 2018 conference;
- Target Date: Saturday March 3rd, 2018

4 - Brief Committee Reports

- Pat H. reported for Resources and summarized how many different gardens had received plants from the distributions held so far this year;
- Pat H. presented that the next large distribution is to be held on Friday September 29th and the bulb distribution in October is coming up as well;
- JW reported that Communications will send out a newsletter right after Labor Day to announce the planning retreat and we are soliciting for stories for the email;

NOTE: The last CCGA newsletter was sent out 7/19/2017.

5 - Adjournment & Next CCGA Coordinating Meeting

The *next CCGA coordinating meeting* is planned for Tuesday September 19th 2017 at 6:00pm at the Hermitage Street Garden 5643 S. Hermitage, Chicago IL 60636. Our host in this beautiful community garden will be Cordia Pugh and our focus will be choosing a venue for the 2018 Conference and final preparation for our 9/30 planning/membership retreat.

The CCGA coordinating meeting adjourned at around 8:00pm.

Notes submitted by JW Glass.

NOTE: You can reach any of the 5 CCGA committees via these email addresses:

resources@chicagocommunitygardens.org

education@chicagocommunitygardens.org

membership@chicagocommunitygardens.org

communications@chicagocommunitygardens.org

finance@chicagocommunitygardens.org