

CCGA Co-ordinating Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 6pm

Attending: Julie Samuels, JW Glass, Mamie Gray, Barb Dennis, Angela Taylor, Marsha Wyatt, Lorraine Kells, Gina Jamison, May Toy and Amy Olson.

6:00pm - Welcome & Call to Order

We reviewed the agenda, which can be downloaded here:

http://chicagocommunitygardens.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/ccga_coord_mtg_agenda_12_21_21.pdf

Time-Keeper – JW Glass /**Note-Taker** – Lorraine Kells

Minutes may be found on the CCGA website. October minutes

<http://chicagocommunitygardens.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/CCGA-CoordMtg-Notes-Oct19.pdf>.

November minutes have yet to be posted but are attached to this email. Content of minutes approved by motion from JW with note that spelling or grammatical errors will be corrected in minutes. It was also noted by Lorraine that meeting minutes as well as posting on the website, now will be sent to attendees and cc available to all chairs and working groups to facilitate reading of the minutes for easier approval at coordinating meetings and to keep everyone updated with information. Motion seconded by Angela

Committee Reports

- **Advocacy & Outreach** – Julie reported that the committee has not yet met, but intends to soon. Julie will send email as a priority with dates for a meeting. Angela pointed out that as chair, Julie has the discretion to choose the method to contact the committee and schedule a meeting. Julie requested additional language for the website to the effect: “All people are included” and “Related organizations would be and should be included” New language was proposed for O&A for the website last Oct 8 however the document was not sent to all, so it is being re-sent to Julie as of Wednesday, Dec 22. Julie may make any edits or corrections.

- **Resources** – Barb reported that the Dec workshop and plant sale at the Hatchery went very well. NeighborSpace offered bulbs to attendees. No plans are yet ready for 2022. JW requested photos of the event to post on the website. It was noted that the FB numbers are high due to concurrent posting on FB and Instagram and Resources is getting a lot of love.

- **Education** – Lorraine reported that the committee is on stand-by and has yet to meet depending on decisions of this meeting.

- **Communication** – Amy reported that the work flow of the committee needs to be determined to get FB posts linked to the website. The Newsletter is on her desktop but in need on any city-wide events that should be added. A CCGA presentation about the WeWill initiative is in the works, Amy and May will coordinate that date and graphics to announce. Angela requested clarification of May’s meeting, repeating that this is an opportunity to engage people and bring them into the process. May pointed out that the 1st objective of WeWill is with the process. There will be an opportunity for community gardeners to have input into the We Will plan's objectives-goals. Input from the CCGA

meeting will be sent to the research teams and advisory council to refine and correct the objectives. Once the objectives are set, the next phase will deal with meeting those objectives. So, this is an important step to make sure that community gardeners are heard.

JW reported on the meeting of the group updating the garden list. They defined goals and reviewed the attributes desirable and assembled the list. They may request additional information to complete the list so that community gardeners are able to use the list to connect, to have it as a conduit, for tours, etc. It is intended to be more than a dropdown list, with a map and lots of information. The group will meet again before the next meeting on the 18th. Amy asked if it is helpful to mention this in the Newsletter. It was agreed that a “Coming your way” announcement would be good.

- **Finance** – Angela reported that update from Sally is needed; meanwhile she reports \$13,674.63 in our account not including the \$1500 held for food for the conference, so that amounts to \$15,174.63. There is only a website expense outstanding for reimbursement.

- **2022 Conference Discussion** determined that we will have a Virtual Conference using our Zoom room account. We decided upon 10 presentations to be offered in 1-hour sessions starting Wed. March 16 from 5-7 pm (one session 5-6pm. The second 6-7pm) presentations will be held Wed. March 23 and the conference will end on March 30th with two sessions at the times mentioned. Saturday sessions will be offered March 19 and March 26. Those sessions will be held from 10 -11 am and from 11am -12noon.

Angela stated a motion “CCGA considers having a March 16 Virtual Conference”. May seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Angela stated a motion, “CCGA considers holding in March, three sessions, Wed from 5-7 pm and two Saturday sessions from 10am-noon.” Gina seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

– Ideas for a theme were thrown out, nothing settled. Everyone was asked to submit ideas to the Education Committee which will meet Tues. Jan 4 to work on revisions to the RFP. Amy is invited to attend. The revised RFP will be sent to all chairs and working groups for final editing Jan 5th with a deadline of 5pm Jan 6th for final edits. An eblast with the final RFP will be sent no later than Monday, Jan. 10th. All RFP’s must be returned by 5 pm Tues. Feb 1st. A special meeting will be held Thursday Feb 3rd to determine the 10 proposals accepted for the conference. Communications will be free to send out any information about the conference presentations at that time.

Other Ad-Hoc Business - May reported the “Vote Yes for Clean air, Clean Water & Wildlife” campaign for the Forest Preserve referendum is working on marketing and getting more organizations involved. CCGA is participating while Openlands takes the lead.

The Native Garden Registry tentatively plans to launch the registry by April, Earth Day or during Earth Week.

Adjourn – A motion to adjourn was made by JW at 8:07 pm and seconded by Gina.

Next CCGA Coordinating meeting is Tuesday January 18, 2022 at 6pm