

CCGA Coordinating Committee Meeting Minutes  
February 20, 2024 - 6pm on Zoom

Attending: JW Glass, Barb Dennis, Gina Jamison, Mamie Gray, Sarah Batka, LaVerne Morris, and Lorraine Kells, with guests Marilyn Catinella of Community Food Navigator, and Adolfo Castrejon of Westlawn Conservation Club

Motion to accept January minutes made by Barb, seconded by Mamie.  
Meeting called to order 6:10pm

6:19 Meeting Called to Order

Project/Event Updates are now given at the top of the meeting as per draft agenda sent 10/15

JW reported contacting people who might be interested in the Green Latino grant projects to advance urban greening planning, advocacy, and implementation.

Lorraine made an open call to anyone wanting to add stories or information to our upcoming Winter Newsletter—please send topics/articles.

Adolfo of Westlawn Conservation Club reported that he had a match of \$30 to his own funding, then raised it to \$50 and raised \$150. They are hosting a Native Seed Swap March 2 and will forward flyers and info to us. Adolfo also mentioned a 1<sup>st</sup> Nations Garden Winter Sowing in collaboration with [@jardincito\\_lavillita](#) & [@chicago\\_safe\\_soils](#) at 44<sup>th</sup>, Feb 24 12-3pm. The full address is 4544 S Ashland.

Marsha reported that there is a fundraiser for Maxwell Community Garden, Feb 24 at Pompei Restaurant in Little Italy. The donation requested is \$50, and there will be games at \$5. The fundraiser is for excavation of their main area, wood chips, and to put necessary hardscape in place. They need \$12,000. Maxwell also has a March 2 zoom workshop in seed starting with Laurie Wakefield covering all the basics. Everyone is invited.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Resources and Distribution**

Barb reported on the Growing Luffas & Kitchen Sprouts Workshops Feb 3 when Resources and Distribution hosted an event at the Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave., in the community room. Carolina Ara gave tips and a demo on how to grow salad sprouts indoors. Eve Venable demonstrated how to grow gourds to make luffas. Everyone enjoyed the subject matter and the bonus free houseplants like Cuban oregano were appreciated. The event was limited to 40 people, and there was an option to tour the Conservatory afterward.

Upcoming March 23, Resources and Distributions will host an event to focus on Pollinator Plant topics with seed distribution. It will be at GPC, 300 N. Central Park Ave. 11:00 am to 1:30 pm and open to everyone.

**Advocacy & Outreach** – No report from this committee although Lorraine did report that May Toy will be speaking at an event March 15 sponsored by the Nature, Culture and Human Health Network Summit at Columbus Park Refectory, 5701 W Jackson. 8:30am -3:30 pm. May will be part of a conversation creating welcoming nature spaces.

**Education** – The Legacy Gardener Project is on its way to completing another videotape of Juline McClinton. There was a brief discussion of the necessity of creating a 501(c) 3 for wider fundraising purposes. JW said he had a lawyer who we could contact. Adolfo mentioned that he's getting feedback from his club members who would like to create a nonprofit as well.

**Communications** – JW, Mamie and Lorraine met to work on the website. Then Mamie and JW met again. There is a need to build a team of people to meet, post calendar events. We need to put this blurb in the newsletter.

JW pointed out that you won't get a garden name until you click on the map. JW needs to look at plug-ins . JW will send something about composting for the Newsletter

**Finance** – Angela was not available.

There was lots of news about events in the chat from Sarah. She will be meeting with the Communications team to work with them on calendar and event postings. JW will harvest what was in the chat.

A reminder, the next meeting is March 19

7:10 Motion to Adjourn made by Adolfo; seconded by Mamie