

# Prospect Park Community Gardens Spring Meeting

Tuesday, October 29th, 2013

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Prospect Park United Methodist Church



Meeting called by **Prospect Park Community Gardens Coordinators**

**Attendees:** Jenny, Vera, Laura F., MAK, Julie A., Florence, Jordan, roommate, Karen M., John C., Martha J., Bob K., John O., Lydia, Chase, Shanda, Ian, Margaret, Del

**Pre-Work:** Responses to Survey Monkey questionnaire

**Please bring:** Potluck item, creative thoughts, reflection about the prior season and excitement about the upcoming one.

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<b>6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Potluck</b> Introductions	All
<b>7:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Financial Update &amp; Update on Current Projects &amp; Q&amp;A</b> Financial Update Current Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Infrastructure / Water</li><li>• Fencing</li></ul> Outreach / Expansion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Junior Master Gardener – Youth Gardening</li><li>• Shriners Flower Garden</li><li>• Seymour Place</li><li>• Boeser Place – Spring of 2014</li></ul>	Del
<b>7:30 p.m. – 7:50 p.m.</b>	<b>Lessons Learned for 2013</b> What went well? Where were we challenged? What would we like to do differently for 2014?	Jenny
<b>7:50 p.m. – 8:10 p.m.</b>	<b>Planning for 2014 - Elections</b> Co-coordinators Secretary Treasurer	Del
<b>8:10 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Continued Closure for this season</b> Newsletter continuation? End of Season Community Garden Clean Up Recommendations for “Winding Down Your Garden” Plot reservation process and schedule for 2014 Service commitment – 4 hours Project sign-up	Sam

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## Additional Instructions:

- Think about what to plant and to lay out your plot > Share with others and ask questions if necessary

## **Minutes:**

### **Outreach / Expansion –**

- Volunteers to work with Del with the Luxton Park Youth Gardening program were Jordan, Laura F., Shanda, and Vera

### **Lessons Learned from 2013 (Additional input from the Survey) –**

#### **What went well?**

- Good year for Tomatoes / produce in general
- Compost was essential
- Water supply
- "Del Usage" / access to gardening expertise
- Dedicated Hose / perfect nozzle, good hose
- Trellises / Vertical gardening
- Signs

#### **Challenges?**

- Water to individual plots
- Heavy Hoses / awkward
- Clearing waste
- Cement foundation under the plot / tree stumps
- Compost with other residue in it
- Shared equipment maintenance (coiling the hose – have a mini session on how to do it properly!)
- "Kinky" Hose – long, effective use of hoses
- Having to carry tools to and from

#### **What would we do differently?**

- Hoses – provide water supply in different locations throughout the garden
- Sturdy hoses
- Hose caddy's (good ones that allow us to use them across the sidewalk)
- Better Compost – Energy Park / Pierce Butler has some that is really good
- Build Shed to house tools, padlocked

### **Elections –**

- Sam has indicated that he will be stepping down in order to focus on school
- Jenny Welch was elected as the other Co-chair (Del moved, Vera seconded)
- Martha Joy was elected Secretary (John moved, Florence seconded)
- Del will continue to manage the books as the Treasurer

### **Newsletters –**

- Newsletter is used as a permanent record of our activities – better forum for that than e-mail
- Used to document our policies and our history of communicating policies
- Also used as teaching tools
- All newsletters are available on the web site
- Laura and Lydia will help with the newsletter

### **Gardeners Agreement –**

- Remove dead plants and/or chop them up and use them in place as compost
- There are some items that will continue to grow through the beginning of the cold season
- You may plant garlic, snow peas, spinach and lettuce as a cover crop

### **Garden Security / Other suggestions –**

- A party to paint garden signs with our names on them

- Placing signs like that throughout the garden create a boundary around personal ownership rather than a "community garden" and produce available for anyone who wants it
- Fencing to provide a barrier to keep out rabbits
- Redo the sign and remove the term "community"
- Include sacrificial plantings
- Use some of the kid's garden

**Service Commitments –**

- Shanda offered to make signs
- Troy offered to help with hose setup and take down
- Gleaning program (? – looking for an owner)

**Offseason (Winter) Event –**

- Paint signs to identify people in each plot
- Garden planning session