

## The Greenhouse Project Action Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 25, 2024

Meeting @ Green Central with call in option @ 425-436-6326 Access Code 299827

2:30- 3:50 PM

1. In attendance- Karen Abowd, Will Pierz, Christin Cohee, Jon Ruiter, Dan Mc Clure, Cheryl Rotter; Call in—Kayleen Mahlberg, Karel Ancona, JoAnne Skelly, Lisa Taylor, Jo Kilpatrick
2. Treasurer Vicki Crabb emailed her report on accounts as she had to work. She will check the mail for HMAF check which they mailed Jan 17. If not here by Monday morning Karen will let Steve Neighbors assistant/ Tina Emblad know and another check will be issued.
3. Flower basket Campaign 2024 update sent by Vicki as well and 10 baskets left to be sponsored for downtown. Christin to send out an email and Facebook post for last push. Karen will contact emails of those who sponsored last year not yet inked in. \$11,520 raised thus far for Casinelli labor cost for watering.
4. Discussion was vigorous and unanimous on final selection of expansion site name. Winner was **Sustainability Hub** and title for Christin to be **“Director of Programs”** and for Will **“Director of Operations”**. Jon Ruiter will get business cards made for them. It was further decided that on the website the 3 sites will be numbered so as to show growth as Candi Robles suggested ie. #1 Green Central, #2 Foothill Garden and #3 Sustainability Hub. The name chosen for expansion site it was felt reflects its purpose ecologically and financially for TGP.
5. Karen recapped the notes from last years Mothers Day Plant Sale. Board member Lisa Taylor reminded the group that the cashiers station should be moved too the end of the ADA ramp for accessibility and should face East. Signage directing folks plainly visible is key. Per last year 3 persons working cashier station needed. Vicki and Karen volunteered so far for this year. A bar code system would be used for pricing this year for inventory management and cataloging what items sold most for future reference. It was decided a volunteer training day WOULD be needed this year the day before. Dan will discuss with Will, Christin and Jon pros and cons of what to use in terms of printer/reader equipment or if expanding our Clover capability is best. Vicki will need to be a part of this conversation also for accounting. \$30 booth fee as per last year decided on. Christin said Root & Wing , Bee City, Monarch Society will be there as vendors and will check into LaNova, a bird feeder and yard art vendor. 6-8 total vendors. Discussion on EVMS having a booth to sell their plants if Christin pre-approves quality. Will to have petunia baskets for sale and all signage will be set up that Friday before sale. Lisa asked that there be an info board or sheet on types of tomatoes and how long to fruit. Kayleen suggested a better way to keep visitors out of the greenhouse. Christin wo establish a clean up day ahead of the sale. Set up on Friday. Haley will do face painting again. Will said that an info sheet for tomatoes, peppers, eggplant and ripening times is in progress. Karen asked that printed posters be available for distribution, facebook post to go up tomorrow for the sale and TGP sale will be in the March issue of Edible Reno Tahoe Magazine. Cheryl suggested Sticker Mule for getting stickers made being created by our AmeriCorps.
6. Executive Director Jon Ruiter updated the group on hoop house building permit and once engineer has plans and calcs for wind, snow and seismic loads submitted he will let Karen know so as to contact Hope Sullivan in planning to expedite process. Concrete piers for posts required

and with added engineering a \$10K add to the project. He stated getting the donation of the hoop house provided a small savings. He discussed Jake's cost estimates for evaporative cooler replacement at \$10,200 for end of May already approved by Board. Dan will check pricing on polycarbonate panels against Jake's pricing of \$26K. Discussion on timing of this repair and doing incrementally or at one time. Dan said storing panels an issue but with shipping should be ordered at one time. Further discussion on cost of a boom lift of \$2900 and if CCSD, Mark Lopiccolo, Casinelli or Armac Const. could loan one for the repair.

7. Director of Operations, Will Pierz updated the group on the cement mixer compost sifter in full use purchased by TGP. Using all our own compost and working to eliminate weed seed contamination. Petunia seeds planted; successful perennials going strong; Lake Tahoe Maste gardeners requested quotes for some plants; in process of deciding classes and conferences; seed orders in; organizational efforts going forward.  
Director of Programs, Christin Cohee, updated on rotation of tomatoes completed in the greenhouse; flats of greens harvested to move to hoop house 2; seeds are planted for food production; lots of planting to happen very soon; at Foothill Garden some harvesting but mice are a problem so more aggressive mitigation to happen; Christin to email Paula Mayer at CTH on event coordination. Produce numbers for 2023 at 3,483 and just over 29,000 pounds donated since 2014 which Christin posted on the website.
8. No representative from AG/FFA present at the meeting.
9. Excellent newsletter praise shared and Christin said March 1 is deadline for next issue. Karel to do an article on Plant Sale, Harvest Dinner Date to be announced and Karen suggested a "What's in a Name" piece announcing Sustainability Hub and what that means ecologically and financially for TGP and the community.
10. Under other issues September 23 was decided date for this years 2024 Grateful Harvest Dinner as BGCWN luau is September 14.
11. Next meeting Thursday February 29, 2024 @ 2:30 PM @ Green Central with call in option.
12. Meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM.