

The Greenhouse Project Action Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday September 26, 2024

2:30-3:30 PM @ Green Central; Call in option @ 425-436-6326 Access Code 299827

1. In Attendance- Karen Abowd, Jon Ruiter, Jo Kilpatrick, Cheryl Rotter, Christin Cohee(joined after returning from STEM Summit); Call in-Kayleen Mahlberg, Lauren Gates
2. Treasurer Vicki Crabb submitted her update as she was working. She provided account updates and what amounts had been recorded in TGP bank account from the Grateful Harvest Dinner. Not all results yet in. She reported that Farmers Market sales to date are \$2,233.35.
3. Grateful Harvest Dinner 2024 wrap up as follows..
 - Jon Ruiter reported that it was the most successful event since we started the sponsorship format. This years proceeds without Grow It Forward included were \$126,494.94; 2023 was \$120,169.62;2022 was \$118,519.02. Both Steve Sanchez and Charlie Abowd felt it was a flawless event.
 - Starting sponsor campaign March 1 and ending by April 1 with the bulk in by mid- March was the way to go!
 - having 12 volunteers work the event plus Kippy and Jeremy Spilker taking pictures was fantastic.
 - Jon said it was the most profitable auction yet with 18 auction items and 6 outstanding raffle items which brought in more than ever as well. Having auction volunteers take turns pairing with Christin and Sam taking the lead on raffle worked well.
 - Suggested that speeches start by 5:45 so dinner service can start at 6pm. Karen said that works as she had Dan work the door to check in last 5 guests so would free her up.
 - Kayleen said 15 requests for mixed drinks and beer during pass around appetizers. Karen explained bartender issue and Jo suggested perhaps beer and 1 pre-mixed cocktail with cash a carry bar might work. Karen also said that Steve Sanchez wine decisions should not be questioned as he is the expert and TGP willing to pay the extra to get the discount on quantity he ordered with surplus wine going to NSC to sell.
 - Starting ticket sales July 1 is a definite!
 - Wi-fi @ NSC went down prior to event and needs a better solution. Also if music can not be as loud up front would be helpful for table conversation although Karen and Vicki could hear well doing Angel Donor match conversations with guests.
 - Wonderfully mixed age group of guests contributed to the energy.
 - Ending auction at 7:45 PM was good but Jon will check out different auction site as popcorn bidding and some maximum bid entries did not record. All was well handled but unneeded stress.
 - Jon may relocate his station back by bar for better traffic flow and perhaps move credenza although raffle was well displayed there.
 - have FFA students practice with mike ahead of time as they literally need to kiss the mike to be heard.
 - need to establish correct format to utilize TV or put on big screen. Perhaps each pic needs to be on a thumb drive and not power point format.
 - Volunteers requested a copy of the seating chart so they can greet folks by name.

An amazing event and kudos to all who volunteered and contributed!!!! Takes a village!

4. Flower basket Sponsorship Campaign 2025.

-Cheryl liked how Karen Launched it last years "Do you notice What's missing downtown...flower baskets etc." so Karen will do that again. Jon and all agreed that Oct 15 would be launch date. With Karen doing repeat reach outs monthly. Karen emphasized that seeds and not plugs should be used and Christin said she and Sam had already decided that. Some discussion on the Gardnerville flower basket program reach out from the woman who heads that up. Agreed that advice only at this time to them and long term perhaps a cooperative working together could happen.

5. Executive Director Jon Ruitter reported that TGP had secured a pick up truck through the State For \$2300 with 100,000mi, 2003 Ford F150 4 x 4. He will take it for a tune up and inspection. The refrigerated truck stalled on Christin for Farmers Market and it was agreed by group that no more money be put into it. Karen will call Carson City Towing/Chris Holland about the auction they do once a month and if they would take the truck. Facebook Marketplace not a viable option since the truck seems to be having mechanical issues and donating to another non profit not okay for the same reason. Jon Ruitter is awaiting on quote from Jim Gray/Country Financial on insurance for truck. No longer will TGP need to pay commercial rates not having refrigerated truck. A savings for sure.

6. Director of Programs Christin Cohee submitted her report since she was at STEM Summit. *See attached

7. Operations Manager Sam Heward submitted her report as she was traveling. *See attached.

8. AG/FFA instructor Laren Gates reported Soils and Range had come in second and Max for Individuals had come in first. Karen thanked her for getting the FFA leaders to the event to speak.

9. Under other issues Karen reported that she had met Tod Harper at the event 775-450-6777. He farms 2 acres and tractor turns compost and is willing to be a resource for Christin and Sam. Karen will reach out to him this coming week and arrange a time at Green Central where he can meet Christin and Sam.

-Gate is fixed by CCSD

-Karen asked Jon to send her a copy of the plans for the hoop house for Chris Baker from Manhard Consulting to review. She talked to him about this at the dinner and he volunteered to check them over to make sure we are not being over-engineered on this structure.

-Karen, Vicki and Jon will work forward on sales tax reporting if needed and what is needed as Sustainability Hub sales become viable.

10. Next meeting Thursday Oct 31, 2024 @ 2:30PM @ Green Central With call in option.

11. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM