

The Greenhouse Project Action Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday October 31, 2024

2:30-3:30 PM

Meeting @green central with call in option @ 425-436-6326 Access Code 299827

1. In Attendance—Karen Abowd, Josh Hobsen, Dan McClure, Jo Kilpatrick, Cheryl Rotter, Jon Ruiter, Sam Heward, Christin Cohee: Call in-Joanne Skelly, Karel Ancona. Karen introduced new board member Josh Hobsen.
2. Treasurer Vicki Crabb submitted her reports due to a work conflict. Bank balances were shared with group. All Harvest Dinner donation and in kind letters have gone out. Vicki will submit to HMAF Foundation non event 2024 donations and Harvest Dinner Cash Donations for cash match. Final net total from Harvest Dinner \$126,205.65. Most successful event to date! Vicki also submitted a spread sheet of paid flower basket sponsors to date totalling \$1700.
3. Flower Basket Sponsorship 2025 forward strategy discussed. Karen will again reach out via email Nov 15. Josh offered to have Karen do a KNVC interview next Thursday. Jon asked that she say renewals will be given priority and new sign ups for baskets will begin Jan 1 2025. Only 80 baskets brackets available. Cheryl suggested additional petunias be grown for plant sale and Christin still waiting to hear from Gardnerville basket program director regarding TGP growing their petunia starts. Christin has newsletter ready to go and Karel will include an article about Flower basket sponsorship. Giving Tuesday reach out scrapped as unsuccessful and having just done Harvest Dinner and Flower Basket campaign in full swing Jon and Karen both felt it inappropriate for TGP to participate.
4. Executive Director Jon Ruiter updated the group. Produce donations attached to date. Comment made less gleaning this year on apples due to early season frost so numbers a bit behind last year. Jon has truck registered and Karen suggested he talk to Vital Signs about TGP logo for the truck. Jon reached out to Cory and Linda King who donated the trailer and Linda has to sign off on the title next week so that can be registered as well. Jon checked on Robert Z Hawkins grant submission deadline. They meet monthly so once Jake provides a revised quote on bracing supports etc and the final solar package is chosen Jon will submit. Regarding the GC automation system Sam will do research on most efficient options. Jake is doing a temporary fix currently but parts no longer available for what we currently have so time to upgrade. Karen suggested that Jake be looped into selection conversation as well for most efficient, cost effective and readily available system for parts. Powering needs will play a role in final choice as well (low voltage vs higher voltage). Dan mentioned not to be afraid to ask for non profit discount from the company we ultimately choose.
5. Director of Programs Christin Cohee updated the group. Newsletter to go out Monday. Sam to write an article on leaf drop offs @ scheduled times and Josh suggested she add pumpkins be dropped off also. Jon will do the thank you for the Harvest Dinner article. Christin reported for AG teacher Lauren Gates that the Plant Science team that competed in Nationals took a Gold Medal and 3 Individual medals of Gold, Silver and Bronze. Kudos to their hard work and achievement and to TGP that supports their efforts with hands on instruction and financial assistance to be able to attend. Foothill Garden the garlic is

planted. A manure drop off there this week as well. Christin shared a brilliant interface of having the Master Gardeners who are required to teach classes plus volunteer hours be engaged at Foothill Garden. Dan said his wife Rachel and Jessica divide the Gardnerville/Washoe responsibilities but he would connect Rachel with Christin to get this arranged. Karen said she was meeting with new board member Katie Mitchell/CTH tomorrow and would bring this to her attention as well. Christin also said a tincture and teas class is something she would like to teach as it relates to the medicinal plants in the Foothill Garden. Karen said she would share this and the notes from 1 yr ago with CTH that they did not follow through on to get the class activity back on track. Christin found and captured rodents in native plant hoop house. Comstock seeds donated native plant seeds. Christin and Sam to tour state nursery Cory runs next week. Considerable amount of seeding and planting has happened this month. Outdoor crops doing well and other beds ready for winter. CSL students coming out to the site every other week. Jon will reach out to Virgil AGAIN about gate not working.

6. Operations manager Sam Heward said vermicast sold out for this year. What she will have coming up is needed for TGP gardens. She has been actively composting and steam coming from piles which is a good sign of compost activity. She uses the schools tractor and returns it to the yard regularly. Karen suggested and Sam agrees that she reach out to Tod Harper every 2 weeks for assistance at Sustainability Hub. Winter crops planted in main greenhouse and tomato harvest next week. Goal to build a hydroponics system in back of greenhouse for lettuce. Meeting with Green Our Planet/Woody Worthington next week and want to see if a unit can be donated..
7. AG/FFA not present to report.
8. Cheryl Rotter said she is getting name badges for the new board members and one made for Sam Heward as well.
9. Next meeting is Thursday *Nov 21, 2024 due to Thanksgiving the following Thursday. Dan offered to send out a calendar invite to remind folks about Action Group Meeting.
10. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM