

The Greenhouse Project Action Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday January 30, 2025

Meeting @ Green Central : Call in @ 425-436-6326 Access Code 299827

2:30- 3:30 PM

1. Attendance-Karen Abowd, Jon Ruiter, Vicki Crabb, Cheryl Rotter, Jo Kilpatrick, Josh Hobson, Americorp Erin, Sam Heward; call in—JoAnne Skelly, JohnProcaccini, Katie Mitchell, Karel Ancona
2. Vicki provided the Treasurer's update on accounts. Discussion on large billing amounts to Master Gardeners and payment by credit card and charging a fee. Recent billing to them incurred a \$33 credit card fee. It was decided that when Vicki invoices she do a cash/check invoice amount and a credit card invoice amount that includes the credit card fee. This would only pertain to large purchase as this one was billed for over \$1,000.
3. Flower basket campaign update provided by jon, Vicki and Karen. To this point \$10,700 has been taken in but Vicki had three more sponsors not yet recorded. A later reconciling of that has proceeds in at \$11,625. Jon said that with those who normally reup there are only 5 baskets left to get sponsored. Karen will do another reach out via email or text next week and then Christin will do a facebook post on her return. Josh said that if karel would write a PSA he will promote on KNVC and Karel agreed to work with Josh on that. Campaign ends last day of February. Jon can get bracket moved by Stan Jones bench and Karen will let Sue Jones know so she can send in sponsor form and check.
4. Mothers Day Plane Sale for May 10, 2025 was discussed. Karen read notes from last year to refresh thoughts on what to do. City permit not needed as we are not parking on the street. Christin does need to reach out to CCSD facilities and fill out their permit form as well as reach out now to vendors. It was agreed last years vendors were great and 8 vendors works. We had one no show last year. John Procaccini agreed to manage parking and shuttling folks and traffic control. It was decided we would have a volunteer barker on Saliman and Robinson with an arrow. Katie Mitchell agreed to get the arrow made. Sam said wifi can be moved so that check out stand has good reception with our new devices. Bitter Root played last year and a reach out to Katie Johnson about this year would be terrific. 6 raffle items would be available and Karen, Vicki, Cheryl, and Karel agreed to provide raffle items. Just 2 more needed to step up. Cheryl said 20 baskets of medium size is the perfect number and made an ask for folks to pick up medium size baskets at thrift stores and get them to her. Sam will get working on the bar coding with new system and Karen said to reach out to Dan McClure for any questions or help. Karel will provide 20 chicken and egg cups hugely successful last year. Promo will be a spot on KOLO and maybe Jo and Sam will do it together this time; Kilpatrick and Bullentini billboard and Karen coordinated with Tara Butke to just change date on last years poster. Jo will get it posted to billboard. Karel will do an article and Christin to promote on facebook. Sam will check into ordering the cardboard flats. We used all last year donated by Greenhouse Garden Center. Sam will check Uline and other sources and Karen said if no success to reach out to David Ruf. Jo brought the need for tents.

She has one, Josh can get an extra tent if needed, and Katie has a tent plus TGP has 2 tents. Vendors supply their own.

5. Executive Director Jon Ruiter gave an update. Permit for the large hoop house is secured. Jake has ordered anchoring materials and lumber and wants to start Feb 10 and do structural the week of Feb 17 weather permitting and with timely shipping of materials. It was decided a silver shovel dedication date would be decided with construction completion and perhaps Paul's/Charlie's tree and Terrill Ozawa and her family members trees would all be dedicated then too. Fruit tree placement Christin has ideas for. Jon said solar install he would reach out to Jake for bracket construction and anchoring and the solar company for any other assist needed to get them functional.
*Produce numbers attached for 2024 with close to 2,000lbs(1,965.94) donated valued at \$9,512.42. See attached.
6. Christin Cohee, Director of Programs, emailed her great updates on all things going on.
*See attached.
-Note that Sept 22 is the date decided for the Grateful harvest Dinner 2025 which is the first day of autumn to be posted in the newsletter. Karen will have a Save the Date poster made for that event.
-City permit is NEVER required for our Plant Sale as we do not allow any parking on city streets. However Christin needs to submit form to CCSD facilities for parking in ROTC lot and for gate access through the bus yard.
 - Greenhouse winter production is the best I've seen since I started here. Huge shout out to Sam for working so hard to dial in a good fertilizer recipe and schedule, and to the team for jumping into the new routines
 - Good initial meeting with Katie at Foothill - connected with Gayle who wants to help with the medicine garden/classes surrounding that. I'm going to meet with her at the garden in March to discuss details further.
 - Thinking about hosting the first class of the year at green central to talk about seed starting, show our set up, etc. I need to get that on the calendar once I'm back - probably Feb 28th
 - Have not heard anything from anyone else about teaching classes
 - CSL class is coming out about twice a month now. Really fun having them and showing them how to do different tasks around the greenhouse. We made seed balls with native wildflower seeds yesterday and I hope to have them help spread them around the Sustainability Hub site next time they're out, in hopes that we can get some plants that aren't weeds growing out there.
 - Plant sci/greenhouse management students are still coming out about once a week. We're only having half the class out at a time currently as that's most manageable in the greenhouse. It seems like everyone gets more out of it that way, too. They've been helping out with harvests, soil nutrient tests, measuring tomato growth, and transplanting
 - Next newsletter to go out on March 3rd - to include plant sale details, shopify details (need to determine a date for shopify launch), volunteer day schedule. Last year we included the initial Harvest Dinner save the date - let me know if we have that in time and I'll include it again
 - I'm thinking that Karel can do the plant sale blurb if that sounds good.

- Please let me know if anyone has anything else that they would like included!
- Native plant nursery:
 - A lot starting to sprout in the greenhouse as well as outside and in the shade house! Should have everything we want seeded done within the next month or so.
 - CC Master gardeners have paid the first half of their order for 750 plants due at the end of May.
 - Ripple reached out last week about availability to grow plants for them for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Museum medicine garden, so we're discussing species and quantities. Sounds like it will be another 100-200 plants, and I think it's doable for us.
 - Honestly seeding a lot to see how everything grows and sells. Testing the waters with different species and methods of growing to figure out what works and sells best.

7. Operation Manager update was given by Sam Heward. Karen mentioned that she has extra seed cards from Charlie's celebration of life and will give Sam some for wildflower planting. Sam said worms are healthy despite the cold weather. Regarding composting she is getting buckets from EVMS, Cracker Box, and So Juicy. Amy is dropping of buckets from EVMS. Jon Ruitter suggested that Sam use the truck and pick up buckets from the other schools willing to participate so not dependent on school volunteers. Sam said powdery mildew has been an issue in the greenhouse but organic milsap seems to be working to combat that. The goal is 1900 petunia plants. 1200 are sold for the flower baskets and plant sale. Master Gardeners want a few hundred as well. Tahoe master gardeners are interested in native plants. Currently growing marigolds, pansies and herbs. Seeds are ordered and on schedule for Plant Sale and flower basket planting. TGP has been asked to be part of the Tahoe farmers market May 31.

8. No Ag/FFA update was submitted.

9. Grateful Harvest Dinner will be September 22 at Nashville Social Club. John Procaccini confirmed that date was open and booked it. Karen, John and Matt will get together end of February to discuss dinner details. Karen will start reaching out for sponsors mid-February and will have Tara Burke get poster and sponsor sheet design done.

10. Next meeting Thursday February 27, 2025 @ Green central with call in option.

11. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.