

Minutes
Board Meeting of the Napili Community Garden
March 8, 2014 – 8:00 a.m.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 a.m. All Board Members, current and elected, were present with the exception of Steve. Present were Taressa, Josie, Jamie, Dave, Robert, Charlie, Floyd, Linda and Brenda. Garden members present as guests included Jai, Freddie, and Dwayne.

Taressa chaired the meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT

To cultivate a community rooted in sustainability by providing a place for cooperative organic gardening.

BUSINESS

The meeting was started with a reminder for everyone to conduct themselves in a courteous manner so that we can cover the business we need to cover.

Financials and Membership

- Jamie shared that we had a starting balance of \$13,106.00. \$1,650.00 was collected in checks and \$1,720.00 in cash for garden memberships. A total deposit of \$3,370.00 was made to the account, which brings the total balance to \$16,476.00
- 94 garden plots were sold; 80 – 20 x 20 and 14 - 10 x 20.
- There are still two \$90.00 plots that have not been paid. Josie is in contact with these people.

Broadfork

“A broadfork breaks the earth to a deeper level than most tillers and cultivators can reach (over 1 foot). No fuel and no pushing required – a person steps on the crossbar to use body weight and the handles to work fork down.”

- We started a discussion about the purchase of a broadfork that was built by a garden council member. Taressa asked each person to share their feeling about the purchase, and the following are comments regarding a potential purchase:
 - The Garden Council should investigate and purchase tools that are appropriate for use by garden members, whether the purchase is made from a local store, online, from a local craftsman or from a garden member.
 - To avoid a conflict of interest, garden tools/items should not be bartered or traded for things such as payment of plots or community service.
 - A cost comparison should be made to ensure that the item/tool is priced at a fair and market value price.
 - Determine the fair price and if the garden members will benefit.

- A vote of the Garden Council is necessary to purchase or reimburse for tools.
- The broadfork does require manpower and a suggestion was made that there should be a demonstration on how to use it for all garden members that are interested is using the tool.
- The fair market value of a broadfork was discussed. It is modeled after a Meadow Creature Broadfork and the asking price is \$180.00. (Meadow Creature Broadforks run between \$185.00 and \$389.00, plus tax and shipping.) Taressa moved to purchase the Broadfork pending the paperwork showing fair market value. Brenda seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Other Business

- Taressa indicated that Tri Isle said they mailed the grant check at the end of January.
- The water bills are being submitted to Tri Isle and although we don't see the bills, they do appear on the Profit and Loss Statement. Jamie shared that sometimes they are lumped together in the Profit and Loss Statement that we receive from Tri Isle. From the last statement, we can tell that water bills have been paid through November 2013. Taressa is trying to back track a bit to make sure all of the water bills are up to date in our financials.
- Cash funds:
 - All cash has been deposited to the bank account (\$1,720.00).
 - We talked about the amount that should be kept in petty cash for emergency purchases that we do not want or need to run through Tri Isle. Since we have an account at the irrigation place for emergency parts, we could keep less than the \$500.00 that we have in the cash box in the past.
 - After discussion, it was decided to keep the cash box at \$500.00 as it has always been in the past.
- We talked a little about the compost pile. It is, and was, gone prior to the question on the election ballot. There is really no way to know who took it other than ask everyone how much they took and to please pay. Brenda pointed out that even compost in the past that was designated for gardeners disappeared before all gardeners were able to have their "fair share." It might be best to let it go and have further discussions on whether or not to even purchase any compost in the future, what type and from where.

Plot Mistake

- Josie indicated she will touch base with Steve again regarding the plot that was inadvertently reassigned prior to the 60 day grace period. There was a lot of confusion regarding the date and most garden members thought the deadline was January 31st, however, according to the By Laws, it was 60 days from the end of the calendar year.
- Comments regarding the entire situation include:

- Has Steve voluntarily given up his membership at this point? He still has not paid anything for 2014.
- Everyone present at the meeting feels the nasty emails need to cease in their entirety.
- Question was asked why Steve thought the Garden Council members receive free plots. It was shared that some three years ago, it was a discussion, but no Council members received free plots in 2013 with the exception of Dave and Charlie by vote, and no Council members received free plots in 2014. We do not know about 2012.
- It was shared that Council Members get credit for community service hours.
- The general consensus is that we are sorry that Steve lost his plot due to an error, however, it was an unintentional error by an individual and we now need to move forward.
- The person that has Steve's old plot has a receipt for payment and does not want to move.
- Nobody should get thrown out of the garden at this point.
- One garden member indicated to the Council that Steve said that he was "testing" the garden council.
- Freddie has some of the items from Steve's garden items stored securely in his plot and will return them if Steve wants them. He replanted the avocado tree and it can be moved again if necessary.
- Steve's garden appeared to be abandoned at the time it was reassigned. When it was cleaned, there were lots of snails and slugs that were removed that have been damaging near-by gardens.
- Abandoning his plot was not an appropriate way to test the Garden Council.
- Some gardeners don't want Steve to have a garden next to them.
- The general consensus of the Garden Council and garden members present is that we would like to give Steve a new plot to replace the one that was reassigned. Steve does, however, need to immediately stop his emails, behave like a gardener, work together with everyone, and keep his area clean.
- Steve has a lot of good information and could help educate people on how to maintain a truly certified organic garden.
- There was no vote on the above matter. They are all just discussion points, but the Council will need to come up with a formal offer for Steve, a deadline for accepting it, his participation, plot, behavior, etc. if it cannot be worked out informally.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m.