
OGC Meeting 08-27-2022

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Meeting began at 10:07

In attendance: Kevin Immel, President; Lynn Schneidenbach, Treasurer; Mary Clare Murphy, Secretary; Garden Club Members: Stephen Ashworth; Anthony Kay; Andrea McGreevy; Julie Gardner; Hoesin Winchester; Eric and Kathy Buckles;; Renee Marcique; David Asadi; Suh Phinney and Donn; Mark Welbold; Lori Nichols & Theresa Chamberlin-Spradlin; Mike Nelsen; Diane Huntley; Liz Fochet; Sherry Parovel; Maggie Conant (Oceana Community Member)

Kevin Immel prepared an Agenda this morning.

1. Rough Season

We have experienced some environmental problems this past growing season with critters and bugs. The ongoing drought also posed challenges. A proactive approach is better. Many have used barriers, etc. with some success. Some gardeners have reassessed continuing another season.

2. Garden Plot Turnover

We have 12 people on our waiting list for gardens.
Current gardeners have priority if they want to switch to a new/open plot.
Current gardeners have the option to become helpers, if they wish.

3. Improvements

The outer fencing around the plots needs work or replacement. A grant from the Activities Committee has become available. If we spend \$500.00 on needed lumber, etc. the Activities Committee will provide a \$250.00 donation. This is considered a Matching Grant. This will begin this fall. Due to increased cost of materials and need to improve our irrigation issues, we may need to consider raising our OGC annual dues \$20.00. Fall 2023 may be the time to increase dues. A few members expressed concerns over possible increase and offered ideas. A decision was tabled.

4. Financial Report

Lynn Schneidenbach presented the quarterly financial report. The OGC is currently solvent with a \$2359.57 balance. We are \$108.00 under budget. A proposal to get a "table" at the October 16, 2022, Art Show was mentioned. We could pot up cute little succulent plants and offer them for sale? Lynn will check with the Ceramics chairperson who runs the Art Show.

5. Weeds and upkeep

Kevin advised that we need more garden help with weeding and upkeep. A suggestion was made to have a fixed/recurring "Weed Party" to attack the weeds before they go to seed. A proposal for the first Saturday of the month from 8:00 am to 11:00. This will go into effect soon.

6. Herb Garden

Kevin advised that this garden needs more plants. If you wish to donate a plant to the Herb Garden, please bring it to the round table in the back, behind our gardens. Or email maryclaremurphy@gmail.com to advise.

7. Fruit trees/Orchard

Kevin advised that the Pomegranate and other fruit trees are doing well, fruit will not ripen until this fall. There has been a report that unwelcome fruit poachers have visited and helped themselves to lots of fruit. The Orchard area serves to replace trees that have been removed. The Orchard will expand slowly with tree donations. OGC does not provide

financial support to the Orchard/Nursery,

8. Materials

The compost, mulch and garden soil are provided, free of charge, by El Corazon. We pay a delivery fee, which has seen an increase due to a diesel surcharge. Approximately \$109.00.

The Orchard and Nursery provide plants and small trees, free of charge, to the Adopt a Spot community improvement projects. Recently the Clubhouse entrance was enhanced with plants and small trees from the Orchard/Nursery. Members of OGC are entitled to a few plants if they like. Please see Kevin to discuss.

9. Questions/Suggestions from attendees:

- a. A suggestion was made to make a grant available to those who can't afford an increase in dues.
- b. If you have had success with a garden practice, consider emailing your Tips/Tricks to maryclaremurphy@gmail.com. She will compile a list.
- c. Maggie suggested a "Harvest Festival" at the garden. She will approach the Activities Committee, and this may serve as a "fundraiser."
- d. BCC was suggested for future group emails to protect our privacy. Mary will include this in her practice.
- e. Sherry Parovel will make a new batch of ant bait. Put your green bait container, with your garden number on it, in her garden, 7B, and she will fill and put it in your garden.

We received donations from several members after the meeting. Our Treasurer, Lynn, will document. Thank you!

ADJOURNED at 11:11 am.