Menomonie Community Garden

Garden Meeting

April 12th, 2022, 6:30 PM

Leisure Center, Menomonie, WI

1. Welcome and introduction of attending MCG gardeners

2. GARDEN ACTIVITIES and OVERVIEW, Willie - garden manager

Garden opening expected May 1st. Tilling, the staking of plots and signage

must first be completed

Volunteers needed for a few hours on the morning of staking (it will probably be on a Saturday).

Email will announce when staking help is needed and garden opening.

3. WATER SYSTEM

Composed of 3 lines; consisting of a main line and 2 half way on each north and south section.

Water will be turned on in early May.

If significant leak occurs, shut off one of 2 valves found in pump box situated next to front gate

TEXT Willie. His phone number is listed in the shed

Water should be used judiciously, mulching gardens is important

Sprinklers may be used, but gardener must remain on site

4. KIDS CRAFT NIGHT --Kathy W.

3rd Tuesday of each garden month at 7 p.m. all garden youngsters invited

5. MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM

Program discussed. Membership looking forward to MG presence.

Many gardeners have indicated the need for such support. A requested project is to have a poster giving information on usual garden pests and how to control them organically.

6. BLUE BIRDS------Judy

12 fledgling last season

House wrens were invasive

7. MONARCH WAY STATION

Martha takes monarch eggs and raises butterflies at home

Releases them at way station

Would like volunteer to help

Donor would like to donate to butterfly cause in memory of his wife

8. SUGGESTION BOX

To be placed inside shed

All ideas appreciated

9. Common Gardens of rhubarb and asparagus available to all gardeners who are willing to weed and care for gardens.

Cut asparagus below ground and pull rhubarb out.

Please take only what you can use so others may partake.

10. RASPBERRY GARDEN

Willing volunteers care for specific rows of bushes each season

Only those volunteers may harvest fruit

11. GARDEN RULES (entire rules emailed in the past week)

Organic methods should be used such as fertilizers and any insect control sprays. Seeds do not need to be organic.

Weeds must be controlled.

Pets must be leashed and waste removed

Sunflower stalks, corn stalks and black walnut branches are forbidden in mulch area

Japanese beetle traps must be placed far away from garden area.

Only garden decorations to be used for present garden season may be kept in the gardener’s no till plots

Garden hours are from sun-up until sun-down

We are tenants of the city and abide by Phalen Park Rules

Rain barrels covered with mosquito netting may be kept on individual plots

Louis will share his rain barrel (located behind shed ) contents with other

gardeners.

12 BOARD MEMBER OPENING

Please speak to Mary L.

13. NEW FRONT MGC SIGN

New Sign needed. A “call out” to gardeners to submit a new logo.

City dictates garden information on sign

Ideas encouraged

14. PORT-A-POTTY

Potty will return in early May

Rental charge has been $500 per season

15. We will be exploring adding raised beds and looking at expansion options.

Next opportunity for Grant is in August

D/E/I or Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are important themes in such grants

16. STRAW---Willi

Willie has contacted a farmer who has straw bales. Only PREPAID orders will be accepted.

Details on the purchase of straw bales later.

17. FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1st to March 31st, 2022

Income plot rental $ 1,642.79

Donations 49.11

Sponsors 50.55

TOTAL INCOME $1,742,45

EXPENSES FROM January 1st to March 31st, 2022

Water Bill $67.98

domain renewal 20.17

TOTAL EXPENSES $88.15

BALANCE $3,563,17

3 one half plots available at this writing

The next meeting will be May 10th at 6:30 PM at the garden. Bring your own chair.

MEETING adjourned at 7”45 PM

Submitted by S. Grant reporter