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