

**Westbury Community Garden
General Meeting Board Minutes
November 15, 2022
6:40 – 7:50 p.m.**

NOVEMBER NOTES TAKEN BY Hazel Potvin

Annual Meeting of the Westbury Community Garden, Nov. 15, 2022

Place: Platou Community Center, first public meeting since Covid

President Wayne Slaikeu called the meeting to order at 6:40.

Attendees: Wayne Slaikeu, Debbie Gordon, Marcia Hartman, Betina Wolfowicz, Betsy Longoria, Franco Posa, Virginia Livingston, Hazel Potvin
Hazel Heddings, Shelly and Roy Johnson, Steve Goldberg, Kat Elder, and Scott Strang.

Hazel Potvin was acting secretary due to the absence of Dorothy Smith due to a recent surgery.

The minutes for the October meeting were approved by a motion by Debbie Gordon and seconded by Kat Elder.

Marcia Hartman presented the treasurer's report. She stated that we would need to double each gardener's bed rental to pay for the garden expenses for the year. Various fundraising efforts and donations help to cover expenses. She took a Quick Books course to help her better keep the garden expense records.

The treasurer's report was accepted with a motion by..... and seconded by.....

Election of Officers

Franco Posa stated his experience and his enjoyment of gardening and said he would be glad to be Vice-president for the garden. Wayne Slaikeu was willing to be Vice President also but Franco was elected by a close vote.

Debbie Gordon was not opposed and by acclamation became the new president of WCG. Dorothy Smith was also unopposed and returns as secretary.

Debbie's Goals

1. Stress the mission statement of the bylaws.
2. Provide consistent and approved communication for the garden twice a month and more as needed.
3. Work on friendly compliance for those who need to get after their weedy gardens and aisles.
4. Provide more education about organic gardening.
5. Foster good gardening in a friendly environment with members getting to know each other.

Committee heads made comments about some of the things they do and problems they encounter.

Door prizes were given out to all present from a large selection which included books, seeds, t-shirts, tools, etc.

Submitted by Hazel Potvin

Reports:

A. Bee Committee Report – Steve Ewing – November 15, 2022

- Due to the chilly weather, we have not inspected the hives since the last Board Meeting. Opening the hives when the weather is below 60 degrees is hard on the bees, for it releases the warm, humid air that they need, as well as the scent of the essential oils that is in the wax.
- The shade cloths and the boards on top on the hives that were shading the boxes have been removed. The sun will help the bees warm the hives.
- In the next warm period, Becky, Steve, Mike and other interested beekeepers will inspect the hives. We need to ensure that the bees have enough nectar, pollen and honey to last until the plants start blooming in March.

The Apiary Garden Report - Kat Elder – November 15, 2022

11/12/22 - Unofficial WCG workday during PIFF's MIT group workday: Mike, Amy, Becky & Wayne helped me with mowing, bramble, seedling tree removal & pruning & weeding at the Apiary Pollinator Bed. Mike mowed the weeds along the N. Maze border.

Becky & I visited the East field where she is protecting Native Milkweed she discovered & checked on the bees staying warm in their hive boxes.

NOTE: I, Becky with Wayne & Hazel consultation, will be soon be requesting BOD approval to construct **2 Wildlife Brush Piles near undisturbed fence lines to offer year-round shelter, feeding, nesting for birds & insects, beginning this winter.** We will cut & utilize many of the shade tree & branch cuttings Virginia & Taylor Livingston have fortunately left in the brush near the Willow tree 😊.

NOTE 2: In the future when we know we'll be having extreme amounts of trash/

wood debris/ non compostable plants/recyclables from the 7-acre WCG land, I recommend we make better arrangements for separation, collection & removal.

On 11/12, The shared dumpster was again overloaded, risking it not being emptied by the dumpster company.

Kat Elder

B. Community Outreach and Fundraising Report – Debbie Gordon – November 15, 2022 – No Report

C. Compost Report – Hazel Potvin and Compost Team – November 15, 2022 – No Report

D. Membership Report – Betsy Longoria – November 15, 2022 – No Report

E. Pocket Prairie Report – Hazel Potvin – November 15, 2022

Prairie Report

On Saturday, MIT volunteers helped immensely with cleaning out along the east fence line where a lot of farm debris was covered in vines and brush. We need help to haul the brush to the Solid Waste site at 10785 S.W. Freeway. You will need a city of Houston water bill to gain access but it is free to deposit there. Saturday is probably a busy day so if you want to do it on a week day, you can, except for Monday when they are closed

Right now, the brush is stacked next to the motorhome. I was wondering if one or two trucks could do this next Saturday at the work day. You'll need some tie down rope, probably.

There is additional brush and bagged stuff near the dumpster and around the willow tree. Some of it can be hauled too if Kat will give permission.

Although we want to keep the antique dump rake, we have a pile of metal stuff which are the old implements. We hope to have that picked up this week by a guy Mike knows. There are two boat trailers in the mix if anyone knows what to do with them.

F. Specialty Garden Report – Kat Elder – November 15, 2022

10/22 Workday: Paul, Amy, Ashton, I and 2 outside volunteers worked in the beds in the morning. Becky & I worked there late morning.

Primarily weeded & scattered zinnia & salvia seeds. No Orchard volunteers.

10/29: CG members Katie, Amy, John & I helped out at our WWHGC Music Fest booth.

11/12: I had previously notified the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation that WCG had secured most of the trees we had requested: they advised that they had not received the remainder we requested, however they still welcomed

WCG volunteers.

Therefore, WCG SG/Orchard members, Rich & Isaac attended the fruit tree planting training at the Farm location. They were gifted with a Donut Peach tree (which we'll have to determine where & when to plant in our Orchards).

G. Site Maintenance Report – Wayne Slaikeu – November 15, 2022 – No Report

H. Treasure's Report – Marcia Smith Hartman – November 15, 2022

Westbury Community Garden
Profit and Loss
01/01/2022-10/31/2022

	<u>Y-T-D</u>
<u>INCOME</u>	
Donations to WCG	\$ 3,545.00
Fundraising	\$ 11,865.10
Garden Rental	\$ 4,763.80
Misc. Income-Garden	\$ 5,426.00
Volunteer Hours Paid	<u>\$ 255.00</u>
Total Garden Income	\$ 25,854.90
<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Activities	\$ -.01
Apiary	\$ 21.94
Awards & Grants-USDA 2021-22	\$ 1,204.22
Equipment/Structures	\$ 34.27
Garbage/Trash/Dumpster	\$ 1,277.05
Garden Printing/Copying	\$ 301.75
Garden Supplies	\$ 384.08
IT	\$ 780.00
Memberships/Dues	\$ 100.00
Miscellaneous-	\$ -.01
Paypal Fees	\$ 96.43
Pest Control	\$ 335.49
Portapotty	\$ 241.19
Raised Bed Project	\$ 1,320.62
Seeds	\$ -511.57
Site Maintenance/Repairs	\$ 1,035.21
Soil, Mulch, Fertilizer	\$ 656.91
Square Fees	\$ 16.90
Water	<u>\$ 2,700.03</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 9,994.50

- I. Volunteer Coordinator Report – Betina Wolfowicz – November 15, 2022 – No Report**

- J. Water Committee Report – Becky Stemper – November 15, 2022 – No Report**

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted by Dorothy Smith – WCG Secretary - November 15, 2022 Notes taken by Hazel Potvin – Thank you Hazel