

THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT ACTION GROUP MEETING MINUTES

1/30/14

411 NORTH DIVISION ST

1. IN ATTENDANCE: KAREN ABOWD, MARK LOPICCOLO, RENEE PLAIN, CAMILLE JONES, MARK KORINEK, CHARLIE MANN, BEN CONTINE, JOANNE SKELLY, JUNE JAMES, MICHELE LEWIS

2. TRESURER'S REPORT WAS GIVEN BY KAREN IN BRENDA SCHMIDT'S ABSENCE. \$14,500 IS IN THE OPERATING ACCOUNT AND \$13,500 IS IN THE SAVINGS ACCOUNT. KAREN ALSO REPORTED THAT MANY FLOWER BASKET SPONSORSHIPS HAD COME IN THAT DAY AND THIS REPORT DID NOT REFLECT THOSE MONIES. KAREN ASKED JOANNE TO CHECK ON THE STATUS OF THE NEWMONT MINING GRANT THAT HAD BEEN APPLIED FOR.

3. THE FLOWER BASKET SPONSORSHIP UPDATE WAS GIVEN BY KAREN. TO DATE ALL PREVIOUS SPONSORS HAD BEEN CONTACTED BY EMAIL OR PHONE THE LAST SATURDAY IN FEBRUARY. OF THE 61 AVAILABLE BASKETS 37 WERE COMMITTED TO OR ALREADY PAID SPONSORSHIPS AND 24 WERE AWAITING CONFIRMED SPONSORSHIP. SOME NEW SPONSORS HAD STEPPED UP. MARK LOPICCOLO AGREED TO PUT UP THE SIGNAGE AGAIN THIS YEAR AND KAREN SAID SHE WOULD REVIEW SIGNAGE SO MISPELLED SIGNS DID NOT MISTAKENLY GO UP. SHE WOULD HAVE TARA BURKE DO THE GRAPHICS FOR THE NEW SIGNS NEEDED AND HAVE VITAL SIGNS MAKE THEM.

KAREN GAVE A QUICK CONCERT 2014 UPDATE....TOWER OF POWER WAS NOT AVAILABLE BUT JOHN PROCACCINI WAS CHECKING OPTIONS. SHE REQUESTED THAT JOANNE UPDATE THE INFO FOR THE GREENHOUSE PROJECT FLIER SO SHE COULD HAVE TARA BURKE RECREATE IT. ARNOLD CARBONNE WAS SEEKING FIDELITY INVESTMENTS AS A CONCERT SPONSOR AND UPDATED INFO GOING FORWARD WOULD HELP AS OTHER SPONSORS WOULD SOON BE SOLICITED.

4. THE WEBSITE AND MARKETING UPDATE WAS GIVEN BY RENEE. SHE SHOWED THE GROUP THE WORK SO FAR ON THE IMPRESSIVE INTERACTIVE WEBSITE. MARK ASKED WHAT PART JARROD PLAYED IN THIS AND RENEE SAID SHE AT JARROD'S DIRECTION HAD STARTED WORKING WITH VANESSA WHO HAD SINCE LEFT NOBLE STUDIOS SO SHE WAS HELPING JARROD BY TAKING THIS OVER. HE WAS THE GO TO IF SHE RAN IN TO ANY PROBLEMS. KAREN HAD UPDATED AS MUCH CONTENT AS COULD BE ACCESSED THROUGH WORD PRESS. KAREN POINTED OUT THAT THE GREENHOUSE FACT SHEET WAS OUTDATED AND NEEDED TO BE CORRECTED. THE DROP DEAD DATE OF VALENTINE'S DAY WAS SET TO HAVE THE NEW SITE UP AND RUNNING. MICHELE, JOANNE AND JARROD WOULD SUPPLY THE CURRENT VIDEOS THAT LINKS WOULD BE PROVIDED TO ON THE SITE. ALL LOVED THE FORMAT. JOANNE WOULD CHECK ON THE RELEVANCY OF HER BLOGS FOR THE SITE. ARNOLD CARBONNE HAD VOLUNTEERED TO HELP POPULATE THE SITE. IT WAS UNANIMOUS THAT RENEE HAD DONE A GREAT JOB MAKING THIS HAPPEN.

KAREN MENTIONED TO CAMILLE THAT THE GREENHOUSE RECORDS SITE WAS BLOCKED AND CAMILLE SAID SHE HAD NOTICED THAT AND WOULD GET IT TAKEN CARE OF.

5. THE VERTICAL GROWING OPPORTUNITY THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP TO KAREN AT AN NNDA MEETING IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY WAS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH. KAREN RAISED THE CONCERN THAT

THE COMPANY WHO APPROACHED HER ABOUT THIS WANTED TGP TO RAISE \$50,000 IN MATCH FUNDS. SHE HAD RAISED CONCERNS ABOUT THAT AND THEN THE COMPANY WANTED TO USE TGP NON-PROFIT # SO AS TO RAISE THE MATCH FUNDS. KAREN STATED THAT NOTHING WOULD BE DONE UNTIL A COMPLETE BUSINESS PLAN WAS PRESENTED TO TGP BOARD BY THIS COMPANY. THE ACTION GROUP WAS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT MOVING FORWARD. CHARLIE SAID HIS HANDS WERE FULL DEALING WITH THE CURRENT PROGRAMS AND HE WANTED TO GET THOSE FLOURISHING.

6. THE GREEN THUMB FUN RUN UPDATE WAS GIVEN BY MICHELE. THE DATE WAS SET FOR MARCH 15 ON SATURDAY BEGINNING AT 7:15 AM. SHE WAS SEEKING SPONSORS FOR THE NUMBERS AND SUGGESTIONS WERE MADE. A LINK TO THE RUN WILL GO ON TGP WEBSITE. CHECKS FOR THE RUN ARE TO BE MAILED TO TGP WEBSITE. DISCUSSION ENSUED ON THE POSSIBILITY OF A LEPRACHAUN GARDEN WORKSHOP THAT SAME DAY AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT LATER IN THE DAY WOULD BE BETTER THAN AT THE SAME TIME AS THE RUN FOR STAFFING PURPOSES AS FINGERPRINTED PERSON NEEDED TO BE IN ATTENDANCE FOR SUPERVISION. CHARLIE SAID HE COULD MAKE IT AN ASSIGNMENT FOR THE AG STUDENTS BUT IF THEY WERE TO MAN THE RUN THE WORKSHOP WOULD NEED TO BE LATER. STUDENTS COULD HELP WITH TOURS OF THE GREENHOUSE AFTER THE RACE. IT WAS SUGGESTED THE RUN NEEDED TO BE POSTED TO FACEBOOK AND WITH THE CREATIVE T-SHIRTS DESIGNED BY A STUDENT FOR THE RUN RENEE SUGGESTED THE POST BE WITH THE T-SHIRT IMAGE. THERE WAS MUCH DISCUSSION ON KIDS PARTICIPATING IN THE RACE AND PRICE BREAKS WITH OR WITHOUT T-SHIRTS INCLUDED. MICHELE WOULD CONTACT THE CITY ABOUT THE RUN AND HAVE AN ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING. WEATHER PERMITTING THE RUN WOULD BE RE-SCHEDULED IF INCLEMENT. RENEE SAID SHE WOULD HELP MICHELE REVISE THE POSTER.RACE WEBSITE.....

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7. CAMILLE GAVE THE GREENHOUSE MANAGER'S UPDATE AND HAS COMPLETED THE 2014 PRODUCTION PLAN UPDATE. 8 SENIORS ARE WORKING AFTER SCHOOL IN VARIOUS CAPACITIES. 3 HAVE A WORK STUDY MISSION. THE MASH PROGRAM IS PRESENT ON MONDAY'S WITH THE PURPOSE OF INCENTIVIZING UNDERACHIEVING STUDENTS. KOHLRABI, CARROTS, KALE CAULIFLOWER ARE AMONG THE PRODUCE DELIVERED TO THE FOOD BANKS. HERBS AND CHARD HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE CULINARY DEPT. CAMILLE POINTED OUT THAT TGP IS NOT GETTING RECOGNIZED FOR THE PRODUCE DONATIONS. RENEE SAID SHE WOULD DEAL WITH FISH AND MICHELE WITH SALVATION ARMY AND KAREN WITH RON WOOD ON THIS ISSUE. THESE GROUPS ARE RECEIVING DONATIONS ON A ROTATING WEEK BASIS OR 2 DONATIONS PER WEEK. CAMILLE WANTS FFA LEADERS TO BE AT THE GREENHOUSE A FEW TIMES/YR AND MICHELE SAID SHE WILL WORK WITH CHARLIE TO GET FFA OFFICERS AS AMBASSADORS FOR TGP.

CHARLIE STATED PRIMARILY HIS PLANT SCIENCE CLASSES ARE ENGAGED AT THE GREENHOUSE. JULIA BROWN, A SENIOR DOING HER SENIOR PROJECT ON AGRITOURISM, WILL DO AN EARTH DAY ART DAY ON APRIL 26.

HALEY TOUPE WILL FINISH HER AMERICORP INTERNSHIP ON FEB 8 AND WILL BE MISSED. HER OYSTER MUSHROOM CONTRIBUTION AND THE SPECIFICS CAMILLE IS FOLLOWING THROUGH ON. CAMILLE HAS PLENTY OF VOLUNTEER LABOR AND CONNOR WANTS TO BE RE-HIRED THROUGH AMERICORP SO JOANNE WILL WORK ON THAT ASPECT.

CAMILLE ELABORATED ON THE SHADE STRUCTURE REQUESTED AND MARK LOPICCOLO SAID HE WANTS TO DO THIS AND REQUESTED SPECIFICS FROM CAMILLE. CAMILLE HAD ATTENDED THE GAP CERTIFIED FOR FOOD SAFETY CONFERENCE AND REPORTED CERTIFICATION WAS FREE THROUGH A GRANT BUT UPKEEP WAS NOT FREE.....WATER TESTING, RECORD KEEPING, YEARLY RENEWAL. SHE WILL CONDUCT A WORKSHOP WITH JOANNE ON FOOD SAFETY AND A SITE VISIT FREE OF CHARGE WOULD BE PROVIDED.

THE CUT FLOWER CSA WAS DISCUSSED. FARMERS MARKET WAS NOT A GOOD USE OF TIME THOUGH ENJOYABLE. INTERNS ARE RESTRICTED IN USE OF TIME FOR THAT AS WELL. THE CUT FLOWER CSA WOULD BE MINIMAL AND NEEDED FURTHER DISCUSSION. MANY OF THE PERENNIALS WOULD BE DUG UP AND SOLD AT THE PLANT SALE. IT WAS UNDECIDED AS TO HOW THE FLOWER BOUQUETS WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED OR EVEN SIGNED UP FOR. CAMILLE DISCUSSED THE BENEFITS OF THE ECO FARM CONFERENCE AND KAREN BROUGHT UP SIGN UPS FOR THE SMALL FARM CONFERENCE FEB 20-22.

CAMILLE'S HEALTH INSURANCE OPTIONS WERE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT RENEE WOULD CONTACT HER HUSBAND WHO WORKS FOR THE STATE HEALTH DIVISION FOR A CONTACT. DUE TO BRENDA BEING OUT OF TOWN AND NO CHECKS SIGNED, TGP CREDIT CARD PLUS CAMILLE'S CREDIT CARD WOULD PAY THE PREMIUM AND ON BRENDA'S RETURN CAMILLE WOULD BE REIMBURSED FOR HER PORTION. A CONFERENCE CALL WITH THE INSURANCE AGENT WAS SET FOR 11:30 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY AND CAMILLE WOULD HAVE PRE-SELECTED HER INSURANCE CHOICE.

8. THE NEXT MEETING WAS SET AT THE GREENHOUSE OFFICE FOR FEB 27 @ 2:30 PM

9. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 4:00 PM.