

The Greenhouse Project Action Group Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 28, 2020

2:30 – 3:40 PM

Via Phone Conference: Participants dial (425)436-6326; Access Code 299827

1. In Attendance—Karen Abowd, Jon Ruiter, Cheryl Rotter, Millie Karol, Will Pierz, Arnold Carbone, Cory King, JoAnne Skelly, Lucy Joyce, June James, Charlie Mann
2. Vicki Crabb, Treasurer, submitted her report via email. Bank Balances: Operating-\$79,509.73; Savings-\$49,482.32; CTH- \$71,243.84; Classroom-\$52,195.87. Concert donations received to date \$54,500 and still waiting for \$2500 from RISE who has been re-invoiced. Western Surgical donation received was half of what was pledged but due to pressures because of non-essential surgeries cancelled completely understandable.
3. Flower baskets to be installed downtown June 1 and KOLO will film. Jon Ruiter will handle pickup by Cassinelli at Green Central for Cory who has an appointment conflict. Cory will have everything staged for that pick up on Sunday May 30.
4. The status of the banner over Carson St time slot at end of June was discussed. Karen had spoken to Steve at Sign Pro and since a thank you to sponsors is not allowed by City regs Karen asked if Concert Under the Stars could be noted as Covid-19 cancelled but that TGP continues its mission of “Growing, Giving and Teaching”. Sign Pro said they would have to determine if there would be any cost to that banner and would get back.
5. Outdoor Classroom groundbreaking set for June 2 at 11 AM. KOLO would be filming as well as Carson Now. Cory would Facebook Live Stream the event. Karen had invited a short list of 10 including donors and those involved with CCSD and with construction in order to maintain social distancing. The event would be promoted on Carson Now’s and TGP Facebook. Karen was in hopes that when the building was constructed the Chamber could do an official ribbon cutting at which many more including board and action group members could be invited.
6. The Plant Sale post mortem was discussed. Steve Sanchez had sent in his comments...curbside model was a good way to go; perhaps a more robust ordering model and more phone lines; just a few fulfillment hiccups. Cheryl commented that the rounding-up worked very well and that \$6K had been raised from the sale. Jon Ruiter spoke about a Shop-a fi online ordering platform which Arnold agreed was a great way to go as he has used this platform. Arnold thought the cost was \$350/yr. plus a percentage of sales. Jon will investigate further. John mentioned one of the Clover machines went down which delayed his inventory tracking. This platform would eliminated that issue as it tracks inventory in real time. Karen agreed with Jon that all the voice messages left from folks who could not get through made the 5-hr. event an 8-hr. event returning all those calls. The NAI conference room did work well to accommodate social distancing. JoAnne thought it might be great to use that sort of platform year-round for sales of hats, aprons, shirts, seeds and bricks and perhaps for Harvest Dinner tickets. The subject of dealing with shipping was discussed also. All in all handling the sale in this fashion was much better than the Plant Sales previous.
7. Jon Ruiter gave his executive Director update. He had met with Arnold and Cory about Arnold’s proposal to grow extra produce for Fall harvest at his farm such as winter squashes and potatoes. TGP would have volunteer days to weed and harvest and donate 50% of that volume

to food insecure enhancing TGP donation poundage. Cory felt that with the new AmeriCorps stating that this was doable. Arnold estimated 15-1800 pounds of produce would be the yield. Timing for new AmeriCorps begins in September and Arnold said harvest would be mid-September into October. Will said that Harley Davidson Financial might have a volunteer group to help in the Fall. Jon talked about the CCSD lease was final and approved for 5 yrs. on May 12. He also asked folks to email him their volunteer hours for May.

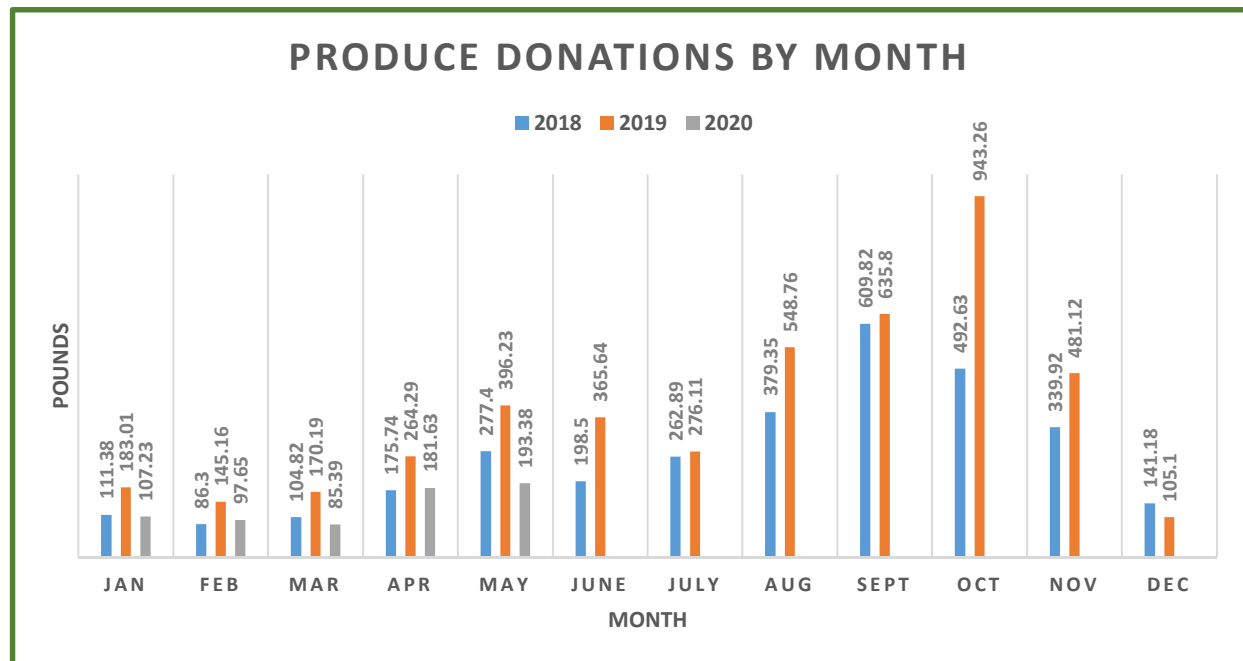
8. Cory discussed the Farmers Market schedule and said first market would be June 13 which Will would handle. June 20 would be Cory's turn and they would continue to rotate. He will set up a schedule for volunteers in 2 shifts-6 to 10 am and 10am-2pm. Cory said he will also need volunteers for flower arranging on Fridays and harvesting on Thursdays. Cory would email the schedule to the Action Group. Cory said 2 more AmeriCorps started this week. 4 more would be hired pending a reference check. He had the logistics for social distancing in force. He is hoping the landscape water from CCSD gets fixed as it is hampering keeping Green central weeds under control. Planting beds are planted and full. Next step is to get the hoop house completed which may be a 2-day concentrated effort with AmeriCorps. Not having students made it tougher in March with the lock down and effected food production as not as much could be planted. Cory thanked Will for his help in moving a peach tree and a second one will need to be moved due to the footprint of the office. EPS will uproot and if no room at GC Will has room at the Foothill Garden. Leftover plants from the plant sale will be utilized. Some eggplant and peppers available for the Farmers Market. Cory will schedule time to put shade cloth on greenhouse with the help of Will and AmeriCorps. The first scholarship recipient, Zion, will donate 10-15 hrs. at GC. Cory pointed out that construction will impact parking so parking will have to be outside the gate.
9. Will provide his assistant manager update. He is working at drilling into concrete for the worm bin but will stock it tomorrow. He emphasized that volunteers to pre-arrange flowers for Farmers Market vital for social distancing at the market. Streaming has been tremendous for the classes and he has gotten positive feedback. Tomorrow would be his first strawberry harvest. He anticipates putting tomatoes, peppers and eggplant in the ground on Monday or Tuesday. JoAnne's article was very complimentary to the edible landscape Will has planted at the Foothill Garden. Interpretive signs for the permaculture model Will is working on with Duressa/AmeriCorps.
10. Charlie Mann reported that he does not know what Fall school year will look like. FFA held a virtual banquet and state convention and they will be getting announcements on how they did in the competition this week. Plant Science and Greenhouse Management still on track with a full class load.
11. Next meeting June 25 at 2:30 PM via phone or at Cooperative Extension. Jon Ruitter will conduct meeting as Karen will be out of town.
12. Meeting adjourned at 3:40 PM.

The Greenhouse Project

2020 Produce Donations

2020 Donations by Agency

Agency	Donations by Weight (lbs)	Percent	Value
FISH (Green Central 209.61 lbs) (Foothill Garden 0 lbs)	209.61	31.5%	\$674.53
Ron Wood Family Resource Center	233.54	35.1%	\$778.10
Meals on Wheels	77.85	11.7%	\$206.77
CIRCLES	133.12	20.0%	\$408.52
Do Drop In	0.00	0.0%	\$0.00
CHS Culinary	6.86	1.0%	\$23.36
Eagle Valley Childrens Home	0.00	0.0%	\$0.00
Food for Thought	0.00	0.0%	\$0.00
Harvest Dinner	0.00	0.0%	\$0.00
Other / AmeriCorps	4.30	0.6%	\$0.00
Total (through May 2020)	665.28	100.0%	\$2,311.30



Total Pounds Produced by Location / Source

Year / Location		Green Central	Foothill Garden	Donated/ Gleaned	Total
2018	Weight	2,462.19	717.74	575.61	3,755.54
	Percent	65.6%	19.1%	15.3%	100.0%
2019	Weight	2,891.39	921.64	701.64	4,514.67
	Percent	64.0%	20.4%	15.5%	100.0%
2020	Weight	592.03	73.25	0.00	665.28
	Percent	89.0%	11.0%	0.0%	100.0%