

The Greenhouse Project Action Group Meeting Minutes
Thursday March 25, 2021
2:30 – 3:30 PM (via phone conference)

1. In Attendance – Jon Ruiter, Cheryl Rotter, Arnold Carbone, JoAnne Skelly, Mark Korinek, John Procaccini, Cory King, Will Pierz
2. Vicki Crabb, Treasurer, submitted her report via email. Bank Balances:
 - Operating: \$98,564.35 (flower basket campaign: \$15,855.00)
 - Savings: \$49,402.84
 - CTH: \$77,249.76
 - Classroom: \$19,631.67
 - Sustainability accounts: \$31,475.00

Cheryl provided an update on the RAD Strategies collaboration, including that RAD is working on templates we can use for social media updates and brainstorming marketing strategies to be incorporated over the next several months.

3. Upcoming Plant Sales
 - Cory and Jon provided an update on the status of our new Shopify site. It has taken more work than anticipated but we're close to launch. The plan is to start with a soft roll-out to work out any kinks and issues and then begin a larger promo on website and social media.
 - Cory noted that we'll need volunteers each Saturday morning through April for curbside pickups of plants sold during the week, and then for the Mother's Day Plant Sale, we'll need volunteers to set up on Friday, May 7th and more on Saturday the 8th. Jon said sign up slots will be set up on SignUp.com and an email will go out by Friday, March 26th for people to begin signing up.
 - John P. will help Cory with logistics of the curbside pickups and Mother's Day sale.
 - Mark K. asked Cory to fill out a Facilities Usage form in order to reserve the ROTC lot.
 - More discussion on the set up of Shopify. Arnold suggested utilizing Shopify's 1-on-1 Help feature.
 - Pick up options need to be made clear on Shopify so that buyers understand there is no delivery or shipping option. Plants can only be picked up at Green Central. This needs to be made clear because our posts on Facebook and other social media tend to have a wider reach to people outside the Carson area and we want to try to avoid any confusion.
4. Executive Director's update:
 - Jon noted that the new Education and Outreach Coordinator position had been approved by the board and was posted on Indeed on March 15th. Response has been good so far, with 11 applicants, including several with strong backgrounds for this position. We hope to start interviewing within the next week.
 - Our USDA Specialty Crops Grant LOI was approved and we were asked to submit a full application by April 15th. Jon will be meeting with Lisa Taylor on Monday to review the requirements for the full application.

- Arnold offered to do a garlic harvesting update class in June. This will be a supplemental class to his fall garlic class. Tentatively scheduled for June 18th.

5. Greenhouse Manager's Update:

- Cory noted that an automated gate with code entry will be installed at Green Central by the beginning of summer (anticipated). Also included will be a pedestrian gate. Mark K. also said a security camera will be installed at that corner. Jon asked Mark if there were any updates to the PowerComm security system that we started looking at last fall to replace our Burgarello system. Mark needs to revisit it and see where we are with it.
- Cory also said that he discovered an irrigation line had been damaged during the road construction and replacement of the manual gate last year, and is working to repair it.
- Cory discussed the current AmeriCorps staffing. There is currently just one opening and all the current AmeriCorps are working out well.
- Cory participated in the CHS Career Fair last week. He did two 20-minute sessions and both went well.
- Crop update: the petunia seedlings are looking very good and tomato seedlings are coming in nicely – should be able to get a tomato crop going soon.
- Construction on the new hoop house has resumed and should be done soon.
- Cheryl asked if the water heater had been replaced and whether the door sweeps had been installed in the restrooms. Both have been completed, and Cory thanked Mike Mortenson for cleaning out the sink supply lines and John P. for installing the door sweeps. Cheryl thanked CCSD and everyone involved in getting these tasks completed.

6. Assistant Manager's Update:

- Will said the fruit trees and vines he ordered had arrived and he's working on getting them all in the ground. There are 19 total new plants.
- Crop update: He's working on filling out the raised beds. Everything is greening up well and the garlic looks good. A "natural farming" strategy is being implemented. Rodents are starting to show up strong and Will is trying to stay ahead of them with trapping. He has also ordered some beneficial insects.

7. CHS Ag / FFA Update: Charlie and Rebecca were not able to attend but Charlie sent an update on last week's Nevada FFA Virtual Convention. The Capitol FFA Chapter had 25 students compete in Livestock Judging, Horse Evaluation, Best Informed Greenhand, Agriculture Technology and Mechanical Systems, Floriculture, Creed, Veterinary Science, and receive the Nevada FFA State Degree. They all represented Carson City and CHS well. Below is the list of their results:

- Livestock Judging Team- 2nd Place State Team
- Lander Smith- Livestock Judging 3rd High Individual
- Lander Smith- Nevada FFA State Degree Recipient
- Agriculture Technology and Mechanical Systems Team- 3rd Place State Team
- Best Informed Greenhand Team- 13th Place State Team
- Floriculture Team- 7th Place State Team
- Horse Evaluation Team- 18th Place State Team
- Veterinary Science Team- 8th Place State Team

Charlie said they are very proud of the members' accomplishments. He also thanked TGP for our continuous support of the Capitol FFA Chapter and the Carson High School Agriculture Science and Agriculture Mechanics Programs

8. Other Issues / Concerns / Website Considerations:

- Next newsletter submission deadline is April 17th. Jon will submit an Executive Director update and Will will submit a gardening article. Cory will submit details on the Mother's Day Plant Sale. Cheryl to check with Karen on what should be submitted in regard to the Sustainability Campaign. Arnold will do a short blurb on his garlic harvesting class.
- Arnold asked if TGP planned to participate in the Farmer's Market this year and Cory said we are. Arnold said he could donate some garlic bulbs like last September.

9. Next meeting will be held April 29th at 2:30 PM via phone or at Green Central Classroom TBD.

10. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.