

**Minutes of Friends of the Garden
October 14, 2010**

The monthly meeting of Friends of the Garden was called to order at 5:00 pm. The meeting was held for the first time at the Botanical Center Building.

Board Members Present: George Deatz, Dr. Bob Kipfer, Gail Stineburg, Kauleen Volentine, Don Akers, Chris Barnhart, Carla Beezley, Susan Boswell, Patrick Byers, Bob Childress, Christine Chiu, Major Close, Lee Coates, Dr. Stan Horsch, Kenny Knauer, Peggy Sauer, Mike Ward, Gabrielle White, Cindy Willis, George Freeman, Jeanne Duffey.

Guests Present: Richard (RJ) Jacob, Dorothy and Richard Brunskill, Linda and Dow Whiting, Linda Gurtner, Grace Lejeune, Julie Boyce, Julie Ulam, Janet Wreath, Wallace and Joyce Munden, Brenda O'Connor, Buck Keagy, Peggy Day Lee, Jo Ferguson, Aaron Ferguson, Jim Schatz, Pat Ware, Richard Tettenhorst, Linda Ellis, Sam and Katie McGowan, J. J. Averett, Peter Longley, Marthe Close, Tom Lakowske, Scott Cunningham, Ed and Ruby Miller and others.

Minutes: Gail distributed the September minutes by email. Major moved to accept; minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Kauleen distributed the September treasurer's report by email. Major moved to accept; report was approved.

Development Committee: Susan Boswell thanked volunteers and all groups helping with the building. She recognized George Deatz for all of the hours he has put in. Fund raising will focus on the gardens now that the building is completed. More volunteers will be needed as more gardens are built in order to keep them up. The gardens will be nationally known. They would like to focus on funding for the Sensory Garden. Office help will be needed for the FOG office.

Membership Committee: Kauleen reported that FOG had 580 members at the end of September. George D. encouraged everyone to recruit more members. Marthe suggested that a FOG membership would make a good Christmas present.

Kenny thanked Susan for her contribution to the Library at the Botanical Center. Kenny remarked that there used to be a Sensory Garden at Phelps Grove and that information might be helpful.

Publicity: George D. thanked George Freeman for all his work on the new Greene Magazine with the Fall 2010 FOG newsletter included.

Jeanne Duffey is working on a comprehensive plan for publicity; she has been here for 1 year now. Her latest news release was about the River of Life installation. The

Convention and Business Bureau puts the news releases on line and the Weather Channel does also. She thanked Kenny for helping to get people on the air.

George D. reported that the new FOG website is up and thanked R.J. Jacob who is the new Webmaster; work is still in progress as only 5 % is on. George also thanked Lee Coates for all his previous work on the website.

Garden Committee: Bob Childress reported the following.

The Cercis Garden needs to be seeded and irrigated after the weeding is finished.

The Dwarf Conifer garden is completed and the prettiest garden so far.

The Azalea garden will be the next new garden and hopefully will be started this winter. Dow Whiting is donating plants for this garden.

He would like to see plans for the Winter Gardens get started.

Cindy Baird is obtaining \$1000 of peonies for the Peony Garden from Klehm Nursery.

A coordinator is needed for to schedule volunteers for workdays. Kenny volunteered to do this on an interim basis.

He is looking into purchasing a laser engraver to make uniform labels throughout the park.

Valves and timers will be obtained for the irrigation system.

He is checking into cameras to deter theft.

Ruby praised Bill Roston and Bob for all their work in the Conifer Garden and George D, thanked Ed and Ruby for their help along with Sharon Owings.

Bob reported that Tres Fromme, a noted garden designer, was really impressed with the Grass Garden.

Old Business: George Freeman introduced the new and old members to be elected to the FOG Board of Directors. A motion was made by Bob Kipfer to elect Bill Roston, Ruth Arneson, Cindy Baird, Dorothy Brunskill, Tom Lakowske to the Board for a three year term, that we re-elect Current Board members Stan Horsch, Major Close, Peggy Sauer, for a second three year term, and that we elect Katie Steinhoff as an ex officio member to the Board. Kenny seconded the motion and all approved.

George will stay on as President and Kauleen will stay on as Treasurer. Anyone interested in being on a committee, let George D. know. An office coordinator is still needed; Marthe may have a possible candidate.

Other Business: A new membership benefit has been discussed; FOG paid the entrance fee for members at the Japanese Fall Festival. Bob Kipfer moved that Friends of the Garden reimburse Sister Cities two dollars for each Friends of the Garden member admitted by a membership card to the Japanese Fall Festival. Christine seconded and all approved.

George D. thanked Dana for staffing the events.

Christine reported on the River of Life. Mimi Aumann has been making paper out of plants for years. She has collected shredded paper from schools, coloring it with blue non-toxic paint, and mixing winter wheat seed in. Participants can pour a cup of the mixture to help create a 6 inch blue river until the wheat sprouts. This is scheduled for Saturday at 9 am; Katie, Dave Coonrod, and George D. will kick this off.

A November 9 development committee will be held with location to be announced.

Guest Speaker: Katie thanked everyone for their help with the grand opening of the Botanical Center. She thanked Dow and Linda Whiting for their help with the containers, Ruby and Master Gardeners for help with the mums, Peter, Hannah, Richard, Dorothy, and Christine for all they have done. The building is a LEEDS Silver certified building. Some features are recycled materials in the ceiling, geo thermal heating with 12 wells to circulate liquid, lights on motion detectors, natural light and building orientation. The Center will provide a central meeting place for educational and social events.

The business meeting was adjourned 05:52 pm. Katie then led members on a tour of our new building.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Stineburg, Secretary