

Briar Chapel Garden Club (BCGC) Meeting Minute

March 8, 2022

1. **Meeting held at BC clubhouse with Zoom attendance offered as well**
 - a. Rick Thompson, president began the meeting at 7pm.
 - b. Requested motion to approve February 2022 minutes (Mike motion, Larry seconded)

 2. **Finance report** – Scott Kizer
TOTAL INCOME \$233.20 (membership in past month – 6 families/8 individuals, no new families)
INCOME YTD \$266.49
EXPENSES \$441.10; EXPENSES YTD \$467.85
CURRENT BALANCE \$4,665.96 (essentially the same as last year at this time)

 3. **Work options at Boulder:**
 - a. The pine straw which was delivered at Boulder on Sunday is for the strawberry beds.
 - i. Need to thoroughly weed the strawberry beds, then apply the pine straw.
 - ii. The Strawberry plants can be carefully lifted and place the pine straw under each plant.
 - iii. Thoroughly cover all the weeded areas in the actual strawberry beds.
 - b. Weed along the fence lines and remove the waste from around flowers, which are growing every day.

 4. **Work options at Briar Patch:**
 - a. Weeding along fence line around the blackberry plants, inside and outside of the fence.
 - b. Chicken wire around fence coming down in some places, needs to be fixed.

 5. **Planting** beans, okra, tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, and much more to come.
 - a. Flowers will go along the fence in big bed (Boulder) where they can be tied to fence
 - b. Nasturtiums and marigolds will be mixed in with cucumbers and other vegetables to keep many bugs away and serve as pollinators
 - c. Will need to wait till after last frost (late April / early May) before planting.
 - d. Will need to call to get water turned on at both gardens. Wait till after last frost.
 - e. Online at BCGC website are maps that indicate where the various plants are located.

 6. **Garden Workdays:** Great job everyone. Those that couldn't make it on Saturday, were seen working through the week on projects. I will continue to email an update on "things needed to be done" in each garden. Really good job everyone. Saturday, we had a crew in each garden.
 - a. Planting started at Boulder with some snap peas, radishes, collards, kale and other lettuce started in other ground bed.
 - b. The beds were tilled this past week.
 - c. Need to put in tarps and poles in Briar Patch. Will plan to have a work day on Sunday, 3/13 starting at 1pm (remember daylight savings time)

 7. **Compost**
 - a. Compost at Briar Patch: Bin 1 is full after chopped items added. Bin 2 is ready to use.
 - b. Reminder that if using a green compost bag, need to rip it open when added to compost so that it is easy to decompose
 - c. If bring new compost, cover it up after adding to bin so that it won't attract critters
 - d. Need to written instructions about composted to placed at both gardens to help individuals understand our garden's compost rules.
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8. New Business

- a. Mike proposed putting up some Mason Bee Hotels around the garden as pollinators
- b. Spring Social Ideas proposed:
 - i. Open house at the garden to attract new members. Need to have in late spring when gardens are pretty (but not yet too hot out). Serve lemonade.
 - ii. Have a big meal together at clubhouse (for BCGC members only)
 - iii. Have a training day for club members on composting and tying up tomatoes (3rd week of June)
 - iv. Educational sessions at clubhouse – for BCGC members but also invite community as a way to advertise garden club
 1. Amy Strunk (horticulturist, lives in BC) – presentation on home gardening, preparation for fall planting. Possibly offer in summer. Laurie will check with her to see if interested.
 - v. Bocce Ball tournament – see if Stacy D will organize event

9. Motion to adjourn – Jenna Thompson motion, Mike seconded.

Minutes prepared by Marie Rape, BCGC Secretary