

BRIAR CHAPEL GARDEN CLUB

MEETING NOTES

July 10, 2018

The monthly meeting of the Briar Chapel Garden Club convened at 7:01 p.m.

New Garden Space update (Liz Rolison)

Liz provided a historical account of the Briar Chapel gardens:

The first garden was the Briar Patch developed by Newland without input from residents. The garden at Boulder was developed with some resident input and turned over to the Community Association in 2014. Newland funded both amenities. Newland has no budget for a third garden but is willing to deed over a plot of land. The third garden would need funding support from the Community Association.

Liz met with Management to ask for an explanation of the budget process and the corresponding timeline. She shared a summary of her meeting with Chris Johnson and Rick Morang. News of the proposed new garden site was made public prematurely and has caused negative response from residents living in close proximity to the preferred site.

Liz presented three identified concerns:

1. While this is only one of several options, residents express negative views about the preferred proposed site for the new garden.
2. Some residents and possibly Management are not supportive of using Association funds to support a limited group.
3. There is a public relations issue that needs attention. Many residents and Management do not understand how the garden club functions. The gardens need to be perceived as Association assets.

A suggestion was made to request an extension to the Boulder Park Garden as an alternative to asking for a separate plot of land for a third garden.

Further discussion included the following suggestions:

- Hold an open house garden tour in the spring.
- Ask Myatt to provide an estimate for the Boulder Park Garden expansion project.
- Provide further educational opportunities and events open to the entire community.

The following motions were approved:

1. Form a Public Relations Committee.
2. Prepare a proposal to expand Boulder Park.
3. Request a parcel of land from Newland for a third community garden to be developed in the future.

Financial Report (Jean Holstein)

Account Balance: \$3,737.36

Children's Garden (Laurie Leichman)

Valerie has asked that members water the Children's Garden when they are working in the garden.

Planting Report (Mike Gorman)

We have had a good crop this summer. Squash bugs and unknown trouble with peppers have been the only challenges.

Members debriefed successes and what might be done differently in the future. Carrots were suggested and will be planted in August.

There will be a second planting of cucumbers on the tomato trellises. The fresh lettuce and arugula were successful.

Suggested plantings subject to space and sourcing constraints include beets, collards, spinach, turnips, dill, zucchini, summer squash, kale, radishes, bok choy, garlic, onions, spaghetti squash, and butternut squash. Gourds were suggested.

The use of tomato trellises was successful. Cages will be constructed for eggplant.

Engineering Report (Larry Pflum/Don Michels)

Everything on the "to-do" list from February has been completed. The Briar Patch tiller has died, but the tiller at Boulder Park is functional. A tiller can be rented for \$50 from Town and Country. Would like to buy an electric chipper.

Don pressure washed the Briar Patch shed, recaulked, and applied clear coat. Liz stained the shed.

The cost of a chipper will be researched.

Mark Sonnentag has agreed to weed the paths. He is requesting help. The propane torch is slow, labor intensive, and doesn't work well.

Social Activities

Dan Taylor's cooking class is scheduled for Saturday, July 28. He will demonstrate to club members how to prepare tomato chutney and pickling. Opening this event to the community was considered and rejected at this time.

Fall Pansy and Mum Sale (Liz Rolison)

The club will be selling 6-packs of pansies available in three colors for \$2.50. Mums will be sold in 8-inch pots available in three colors for \$6. Leila McKay will be heading up this fund raiser and needs volunteers in the following areas:

1. Soliciting orders from the BC Sales Office, builders, Veranda businesses, school bus stop, and the pool.
2. Unloading plant delivery and sorting on August 20
3. Helping with order pick-ups at the clubhouse

The order form will be available online on the website or from Alyssa in the clubhouse. Online ordering and payment is available through PayPal. Advertising will be done on the Briarchapellife website and on Nextdoor.

Mike Gorman made a motion to purchase signs for the Pansy/Mum Sale. Motion was approved.

Sales Timeline:

August 13	Start taking orders
September 12	Deadline for orders
September 13	Orders submitted to MultiFlora
September 20	Plants delivered to clubhouse for pick up

Additional Agenda Items:

- **Membership Calendar** (Laurie Leichman)
Membership Drive launches on September 1. Dues must be paid by November 7. Stacey Donelan will serve as Membership Chair. Nominations for officers will be taken at the October meeting. Officers will be elected at the November meeting.
- **Harvest Dinner**
Scheduled for October 20. Val and Liz will organize. The club will invite Hillary from Town and Country.
- **Membership Cap and Club Dues** (Liz Rolison)
A discussion ensued about the possibility of eliminating the cap on membership for next year, raising club dues and the consequences of doing so. These items will be agendized and voted on at the August meeting.
- **Pepper Jelly** (Julie Wagner)
Julie asked how many jars of pepper jelly she should make for the club sale. It was agreed that she would prepare the number of jars that she can easily make without overextending herself, perhaps 30-35. They will be sold at the Brie Arthur event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.