



P. O. Box 1862, Morgan Hill, CA 95038
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Morgan Hill Community Garden Minutes
Tuesday, July 25, 2023 6:30 pm

**LOCATION: MORGAN HILL COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER
Downtown at Monterey and Dunne Avenue in the Madrone Room.**

Members:

Joe Elliott	President 2025	Daniel Armendariz	Board Member 2024
Pat Day	Vice-President 2025	Ab-Martha O'Rourke	Board Member 2024
Mary Kellogg	Secretary 2024	Ab-Alex Simpliciano	Board Member 2025
Allen Palmer	Treasurer 2024	Rob Holcomb	Board Member 2025

I. Call Meeting To Order 6:32 pm Joe Elliott, President

II. Adopt Agenda/June 27 Minutes Joe Elliott, Action.

Motion to accept the above by Allen, second by Rob. Approved unanimously.

Daniel's had a question about grindings, but it will be addressed later in the meeting.

III. Hearing of Membership Membership (none)

IV. Reports

A. Financial Reports Allen Palmer, Action

Income- \$0

Expenses-water bill \$267, PortaPotty \$247, website maintenance GoDaddy hosting fees \$66.00,
CA state annual nonprofit filing fees \$25. Special projects \$551(ADA pathways)

Total expenses: \$1,167.00 Bank Balance- \$22,800

Motion to accept the above by Mary, second by Pat. Approved unanimously.

Note: Once again we used 1/3 less water this July than last year. Good job, gardeners!

B. Oversight Report

The garden is being well-maintained by gardeners for the most part.

Motion to accept the report by Pat, second by Daniel. Approved unanimously.

C. Work Day Report Kay Meyer, Info

35 plots have finished all work day requirements. 4 plots have completed no work days and will receive a person email regarding work days. 19 need more work and a reminder about the six hours now required. Kay will send Mary the names for the needed emails.

Motion to accept the report by Pat, second by Allen. Approved unanimously.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Open House Review Sue Villanueva, Report

Sue provided a report of good things and the things we could improve on for next year. We will use her notes for the planning starting in September. We had perhaps 15 non plot holder visitors.

Pat made a motion to set the next Open House has been for Saturday, June 1, 2024, 10am to 2pm, with a second by Rob. Approved unanimously. Sue volunteered to chair the event and Pat made motion to accept Sue as the chair, second by Daniel. Approved unanimously.

Part of our planning will be to create a list of people to send email invitations to, including city council members, the mayor, Open Space Authority, and South County master gardeners.

B. Projects

1.Pathway- Rob Holcomb

Gray fines have been spread which needs water over it to compact the fines. Rain water next winter will do this without us having to use water. The fines will settle, minimize the weeds from sprouting, and the gravel should appear as the gray and gold fines settle.

2. Scouts construction Joe Elliott

Jake, the scout, plans to continue to do three beds, and hopes to be done by July 31,

which is rapidly approaching. Perhaps there will be an extension on the project. There will be a team of scouts and parents doing the work. They will let Joe know when they need access.

3. Bank Signatures

Allen

Allen and Joe will go into the bank and take Linda and John off the signature list. They will go this Friday afternoon at 1:00 and we might get debit card with Joe's name on it for building materials purchases.

4. Road Grindings Use

Joe

There will be no road grinding in garden pathways. There was a suggestion last month to possibly put it on Fisher Avenue next to the fence inside the fenced area since the City notified us that there could be some of that material available soon. We could get a quote for tamping or just spread it out and rent a tool. We might have to clear it down to dirt which would be a lot of work. It would be solid and weeds wouldn't grow up. Adding wood chips there is another option. After discussion we decided we are still not interested as last month. It could be brought up in the future if needs change and we are looking for free materials.

VI. New Business

A. City Events Participation

Joe Elliott

1. City Compost Workshop in October- There would be a booth and display about our garden. Joe will reread the email and contact the city for more information.
2. Clean Air Day- The City offered to celebrate Clean Air Week by planting a tree at the garden. We could replace a dead tree that has been damaged by gophers, and not plant red bud trees because the gophers eat the roots. Joe will contact Jasmine for what kind of tree or trees we can get. Our drip system is turned on only in summer. Pat is okay with getting the right trees if we are sure what kind it is and someone needs to be responsible for making sure the drip system is working as needed. Oak trees or crepe myrtle trees are common, but we might want something that is more of a native tree for the area. Joe will respond to the email and send the board members an update. Perhaps a "current" tree would be a good option.

B. Registration Payments for 2024

Allen checked with the bank about going with Zelle for 2024 payments. We don't want anyone to have to use their personal email and phone number with the bank. We would keep our current email for usual business and have a secondary new email with a different name for payment only. We could ask Betty Jones if could set up a second payment email with the treasurer access. Mary would change the registration form with a Zelle option as well as a check mail in option. Allen is still looking into registration for providing phone numbers, email addresses, residency, etc. Handling checks is a problem with all of the paperwork. Zelle would simplify payment if it is used by many gardeners. Allen says we should look into it further. Mary will send out an email asking gardeners to reply telling us who would use Zelle or check option or we could ask Betty about an online Survey Monkey survey for tallying.

C. Insurance Update

Allen

Our current insurance is \$1400 per year. The current insurance does not cover volunteers (our gardeners). For an additional \$15 per month we can get additional insurance for covering volunteers in the garden. The additional would be about a 10% increase. The current policy protects the board and visitors, not any gardeners. This protects the gardeners while working in the garden.

Mary makes a motion to get the additional insurance added to our current policy, with a second by Kay. Approved unanimously.

VII. Next Meeting Agenda- city events (Joe will email us in the meantime.) above updates, pathway workday gold fines in ADA area. Planning for June 1, 2024 open house for September.

VIII. Adjournment

7:44 Joe Elliott, Action Item