



**Morgan Hill Community Garden Minutes Wednesday, June 25, 2025 6:30 pm**  
**LOCATION: MORGAN HILL COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL CENTER**  
**Downtown MH at Monterey and Dunne Avenue Diana Murphy room**

Members:

Martha O'Rourke-President 2027  
Mary Williams- Vice Pres. 2027  
Mary Kellogg Secretary 2026  
Bill Barnhart Treasurer 2026

Lynn Kaminski Board Member 2027  
Cindy Wilde. 2027  
Alex Simpliciano Board Member 2027

Charles Beecroft Board Member 2026  
Ab- Sally Casas Board Member 2026

I. Call Meeting To Order

6:30 pm Martha O'Rourke

II. Adopt Agenda and May Minutes

Martha, Action

Motion to accept the agenda and minutes by Charlie, second by Bill. Approved.

III. Hearing of Membership (No comments)

Membership.

IV. Reports- Board Member Responsibilities Reporting as needed

A. Financial Reports

Bill Barnhart

Income- \$4. Expenses- \$461 water bill, \$138 PortaPotty, \$185 rodent control, \$34 special projects

Account total- \$27,620

Motion to accept Financial report by Alex, second by Charlie. Approved

B. Oversight Report

Alex Simpliciano

Alex replaced hose holders at plots 12 and 14. He will purchase more holders and hoses for future repairs. Two plots (11 and 52) have side plank damage to consider repairing in the future. He donated a backup moisture meter which is in the left shed.

C. Work Day Report

Martha O'Rourke

There will be a work day this Saturday, 9-noon (6/28). 25 gardeners have no work hours completed. 18 gardeners have all hours done. 17 have started, but have more to complete. After Saturday a reminder email will be sent notifying gardeners of their hours still to complete. Extra help needed- July 5 person with a truck or just a person to help at the Black Mountain Bowman Archery Range to get hay bales.

D. Pollinator Garden Report

Cindy Wilde

The work day this Saturday will concentrate on the pollinator garden. Cindy would like to put pollinator garden info on website and will put things together for that. Mary W has a Google doc showing the Xerces grant plants in the corners. Cindy had an idea of a calendar on the Facebook or website to notify gardeners of events. The Xerces plants in corners so far are surviving and she is watering them.

E. Demonstration Beds

(Martha, others)

Kay can put more flowers in other areas of the demonstration plots.

F. Equipment Maintenance, Inventory

Sally Casas. Absent-No report

Kay notified the board that she and Sally will meet on July 2 to begin cleaning up the left shed.

G. Liaison to City of MH, grants

Mary Williams

Mary W rented an auger and the crew planted the remainder of the trees and staked them up. There is one tree left to finish the work. The Rotary Club grant cycle open July 1, and she wants to know if we want 200 milkweed plugs that we could plant in the fall before the first rain. She completed the Xerces grant reply. She will find out from PG&E where we can put plants along the north fence line. Bill made a motion to apply for a grant to pay for 200 milkweed plants to plant Fall 2025, with a second by Mary W. Not passed. (We have enough projects in progress and we would need more gardener volunteers to take on more work.)

H. Mulch, Cardboard, Pathways, Manure

Lynn Kaminski

We have plenty of mulch and no more is needed for a while. The cardboard is looking weathered, but cardboard can be laid out in the field next to mulch piles and then we can spread mulch overtop to prevent more weed growth. Gray fines will be purchased in the next month. Some areas clear enough of weeds can be spread with gray fines. Work hour work can include weeding the remaining areas. Lynn is working on getting a manure contact. Straw is coming this weekend as noted above (volunteers needed to help).

I. Rodent Control and Plot Repair

Mary Kellogg

Got Gophers has caught numerous gophers and it currently appears to be under control. They have put traps and caught gophers in plots 17, 33, 69, and 82-83.. Currently there is a trap in plot 94. Cross pieces and

corner bracket repairs were done on plots 45, 73, 74, and 99 this month. It was noted that plots 11 and 52 are in need of long plank replacement or repair in the future. (Work crew needed)

J. ~~Board Member Selection~~, Correspondence

Mary Kellogg

The correspondence consisted of the usual gopher, oversight directions, and new gardener communication for one new gardener. Chris Ghione was contacted about used oil containers dumped at the street.

K. Marketing & Publicity

Charlie Beecroft

Charlie is working to make the Internal Facebook page more usable and could include pollinator garden info.

## V. Unfinished Business

A. Gardening Classes Additions

Mary K

*There will be a July 19 garden social with Question and Answer sharing. Coffee will be provided. "How does your garden grow? New idea: water usage and using a moisture meter before watering*

Update: Aug.-September- "3 Sisters" progress, Garden party/share foods, Oct- Pat: Fall/Winter garden prep, and Mark/Betty- PVC structure/winter growing, Nov.-Munch and Mulch (spread chips, winter weed control)

B. MHCG sign to post by Railroad Ave.

Mary K

Mary requested the purchase a second canvas banner to put at the corner of the chain link fence at the walnut tree corner. Charlie made the motion to purchase the banner for up to \$45. In discussion, Cindy said we should pay enough (\$75) and get the address printed on the second banner to include the design change cost. Charlie amended his motion to include the \$75 amount for the sign with the address. Second by Cindy. Approved. .

C. Solar lighting (mounting)

Lynn

Lynn purchased the solar light and we now need someone to put it up. The location is on the right shed pointing toward outside parking area. A gardener volunteer is needed to do that work. Mary will notify gardeners.

D. Plot Repair Progress (using up old long 2 x 4s)

Mary K

Mary K noted that lumber is needed for repairs. Two plots might need extensive 12"x25' board replacement in the future. (Plots 11 and 52) We are using the old 2 x 4's for the cross pieces, but more might be needed to finish up the work. Mary W made a motion to purchase wood to repair plots up to \$300, second by Bill. Passed.

E. Gray fines purchase and use

Mary K. (Completed above)

## VI. New Business

A. Electronic Registration

Bill

Bill plans to pay bills with Zelle, and it is being worked out with the bank. There was discussion to accept scanned/emailed registration forms for 2026 registration for those who wish to do as well as accepting mailed registration and payment. There will be a change noted in the 2026 Garden Policies document.

B. Grant Ideas

Mary W

Mary W took notes from the board discussion on possible purchases we could make with grant money.

C. Large Plant Restrictions

Mary K

Rosemary is an herb, but eventually grows large like a bush. Artichokes typically extend outside of the plot, usually with dry flowers that can poke people when they walk by. Both are very difficult to remove when a gardener leaves and does not take the plant out of the plot. The board discussed being more specific in the garden policies to 1) keep bushy plants to a 2 foot diameter, and 2) that plants that grow from year to year need to be removed after two years. (Especially Rosemary, artichokes) Include in 2026 Garden policies.

D. Demo plot future ideas-

Mary K, Discussion, 5 min.

Very few people have ever participated in this project. Also, the soil level is so shallow that some plants don't grow well without a deeper level of soil. Discuss the future use of the area. **TABLED to July meeting.**

E. Green Egg BBQ use

Mary K

A gardener asked if the BBQ is available for use. Discussion- Due to fire concerns, we cannot allow the BBQ to be used outside of MHCG functions where board members and many members are present.

## VII. Next Meeting Agenda 7/23 agenda

Mary Kellogg

Demo Plot use in the future, regular reports, July 19 social review

## VIII. Adjournment

8:01 Martha O'Rourke