



Morgan Hill Community Garden Minutes Wednesday, April 22, 2026 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	Lynn Kaminski Board Member 2027	Charles Beecroft Board Member 2026
Mary Williams- Vice Pres. 2027		Sally Casas Board Member 2026
Mary Kellogg Secretary 2026	Alex Simpliciano Board Member 2027	Cindy Wilde. 2027
Ab-Bill Barnhart Treasurer 2026		

I. Call Meeting To Order 6:30 pm Martha O'Rourke

II. Adopt Agenda and March Minutes Martha, Action

Motion to approve agenda by Charlie, second by Martha. Approved.

Motion to approve minutes by Martha, second by Charlie. Approved.

Remove "shed codes" from Mary Kellogg's reporting. Remember to discuss the board jobs.

III. Hearing of Membership Membership (None)

IV. Reports- Board Member Responsibilities Reporting as needed 6:36

The board discussed continuing with their current responsibilities for the current year. Mary Williams has been named as Garden Manager.

A. Financial Reports Bill Barnhart

Income- \$437

Expenses- Porta Potty \$189, Rodent Control \$185, Miscellaneous \$50, Tools (hoses, etc.)

Special Projects \$389 (Three garden benches)

Bank Balance- \$26,936

B. Oversight Report Alex Simpliciano

Gardeners in plot 60-62 will be contacted about plots and pathways that need maintenance. Alex bought 3 watering nozzle sets, repaired water faucet near 25. Alex will get a 100 ft. hose for the pollinator garden.

C. Work Day Report Martha O'Rourke

The scheduled work day was cancelled due to rain. A new May 2nd work day from 9-11 am has been scheduled. Volunteers are needed to go with Lynn to pick up hay bales on June 6 or an updated date.

D. Pollinator Garden Report Cindy Wilde

Cindy is working on more weeds due to the new rain. The Ceanothus has been pruned. Miscellaneous work as well as some other pruning. She will be removing the rosemary plant and Alex will get a new 100 foot hose.

E. Equipment Maintenance, Inventory Sally Casas

No report. Sally will be at the Earth Day event if help is needed. She sweeps the shed when she goes in. The chipper/shredder is ready to use, but no one has used it for a long time. Lawn mower also needs to be covered and gas removed. Charlie will check out the lawn mower.

F. Liaison to City of MH/ Garden Manager, grants Mary Williams

URJENT grant was applied for and we will know by mid-May for a grant for materials to use around the raised beds pathway. She has pavers that could also be used, but we would need to have a person bring them over and install them. Grants were submitted to Sakata Seeds, CalColor Flowers, and Commonwealth Credit Union for MHCG signs for the booth at various events, supplies, and business cards.

On May 3 Art A la Carte with the City- We have a craft project for a plant pot with stickers. She asked Cal Color for plants for the pots or we could do seed planting. She has 4-5 volunteers already. Materials- 150 pots Cost- \$162 for plants, \$95 for cute plastic pots, stickers \$95. \$278-\$300. Something else we could do is sponsor the event with the City of Morgan Hill for \$300.

Mary K made a motion that we allow up to \$600 for art supplies and sponsorship, second by Martha. Approved. Our City Forests trim trees again in the fall. Hedgerow plants look good except the Milkweed and Buckwheat, on manzanita, and Monkey flower.

G. Mulch, Cardboard, Pathways, Manure Lynn Kaminski

We will wait to get hay in June. U-Save Rockery has a good quote for gray fines. There is a Chardonney color fines that are available at a lower cost. Lynn will take a look at that color.

H. Rodent Control

Mary Kellogg

Gopher traps have been removed from plot 1 and the garden entry way. (New loose mounds today so Got Gophers will be contacted.) There is a trap in plot 18 now which is at the end of the row in the gold fines area.

I Board Member Selection, Correspondence

Mary Kellogg

The board meeting agenda to the membership contained info about observing board members at meetings to know more about becoming a board member and the responsibilities. We had new member contacts from Richard and Agnes Kowalewics and Alyssa Turntenwald.

J. Marketing & Publicity

Charlie Beecroft

Charlie prepared a flyer and has passed them out in the community and to some board meeting.

V. Unfinished Business

A. Selection of Board Member Schedule

Mary K, Discussion, 5 min.

Mary K will look at our previous minutes to determine our selection cycle. A number of officers have come and gone mid-term during their terms due to moving away, health issues, etc. and we now have a more stable group of board members.

B. Disposal of Unused Items

Martha, Discussion

Thanks to Tanaya and Chris Rose who took a load of scrap metal to the dump in their car with their own Recology voucher. We will postpone a day to work on the piles to later in the year because of other garden events in the spring.

C. Community Event Participation

1. April 25 Earth Day at CCC- (“day of” leader needed)

Mary K

*The open at 7:30 am for set up to be ready by 8:30 am, 9-2 event, 2 pm tear down. Set up \ and tear down to be done by Lynn and Charlie.

*The schedule of volunteers has been set and sent out to those volunteering.

*There will be a display on the table with photos, garden flyers, and miscellaneous gardening items brought by Sabrina. Volunteers for this event are Sabrina, Tamara, Sue, Evelyn, Frances, Jenny, Sally, and Jola.

2. May 3 City Art at the CCC 1-4 pm— Volunteers and Art Activity- Mary Williams, 4 min.

Business completed above on the agenda during Mary Williams’ board report.

D. New Benches Purchased

Mary Kellogg,

Three new benches were purchased from Home Depot to match the four we currently have in the pollinator garden.

Martha made a motion to buy two more benches, with a second by Sally. Approved.

Note- Cardboard knives are in the right shed. (Perhaps one in the left shed.) Use with care and return to the shed when done.

VI. New Business

A. Resurfacing of ADA area update (discussed above) Mary W.

B. Bindweed and Mint Control

Mary Kellogg

Work is being done on plots 20, 21, 34, 43, 72, and 93. Some minimal work is still being done on 44, 64, 65, 69, 70, 91, and 92 mostly by the plot owners. Mint is in 4 areas of the garden. Concentrated vinegar can be put on the leaves, but the mint really needs to be pulled out and removed to the gray garbage carts. Any mint planted should be in closed bottom pots to not spread.

C. Next Work Days, Class Additions for 2026.

Martha, Action

May 2, 9-11 am. We can also look at the master gardener schedule to notify our gardeners.

VII. Next Meeting Agenda 5/27 agenda

Mary K, Discussion

Community events review from Apr and May, next work day, gold fines

VIII. Adjournment

8:00 Martha O’Rourke, Action Item