



COMMUNITY GARDENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 12, 2011
TIME: 6:30 p.m.
PLACE: Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th St. Santa Monica, CA 90401

1. **Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Francine Medieros, Vice-Chairperson at 6:35pm. Attendees were:

Tim Bowler - Main Street Gardener – Chairperson
Francine Medeiros, Main Street Gardener – Vice-Chairperson
Radana Mikes – Park Drive North Gardener – Committee Representative
Lisa Goodwin – Park Drive North Gardener – Committee Representative
Cordula Ohman – Main Street Gardener – Committee Representative
Sylvia Carrillo – Euclid Park Gardener – Committee Representative
Jeff Jarow – Main Street Gardener – Committee Representative
Marie Carmine – Main Street Gardener – Committee Representative
Sharon Shirotnak – Euclid Gardener
Lisa Olson – Park Drive North Gardener
Sharon Powell – Main Street Gardener
Rebekah Brod – Euclid Park Gardener
Cris Gutierrez – Main Street Gardener
Arthur Rodriguez – SMC Student
Robby Barbaro – Guest
Lucy Dyke – City, Transportation Department
Michelle Glickert – City, Transportation Department
Kathy LePrevost – City Staff – Community Recreation
Wendy Pietrzak – City Staff – Community Recreation
Silvia Quintana – City Staff – Community Recreation
Dryden Helgoe – Park & Rec Commission

2. **Approval of Minutes from November 16, 2010**

Sharon Shirotnak noted her name was spelled incorrectly. A motion was made by Jeff Jarow to approve the minutes from November 16, 2010 with the name correction and was seconded by Lise Goodwin. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **Discussion and Comment Regarding the Community and Cultural Services Department Proposed Pricing Policy and Fee for Recreation Programs and Permit Services – Kathy LePrevost**

Request from City Manager to come up with proposed increases in a variety of programs.

4 Categories include; broad community benefit, targeted community benefit, core community benefit and individual community benefit. Kathy reported that the Community Garden Program falls into the individual benefit category. Currently the program is 7% cost recovery rate. This is highly subsidized by the City and the fee increases would bring the cost recovery rate up to 9% which is still very low.

Proposed increase is from \$60 annually to \$75 annually. Fee was last raised in 2003. Los Angeles is raising their fees to \$125. Comments can be submitted to Kathy or Wendy and will be shared with the Rec and Parks Commission (RPC). Kathy invited any interested gardeners to attend the upcoming RPC meeting on January 20th.

4. Presentation of the City's Bike Master Plan - Lucy Dyke and Michelle Glickert

Michelle provided a brief description about LUCE – Land Use and Circulation Element and the development of a bike network plan. She reported that several community meetings have already been held seeking public input and that several more are scheduled for the future. Provided updates on what the City has done so far to improve various City streets so that bike riders are able to co-exist safely with vehicular traffic as well as pedestrian traffic and the plans for additional signage, updates to traffic signals, more bike racks (Main Street gardens) and bike stations where people can store and/or rent bikes from secure locations.

Lucy and Michelle encouraged the gardeners to participate by filling out their online survey at:

http://www01.smgov.net/comm_progs/active_living/bikesm/index.htm

Wendy will provide this information to all of the licensed gardeners.

5. Update on Presentation to Parks and Rec Commission – Tim Bowler

Tim provided updates on the Power Point garden presentation the committee has been working on that will go before the RPC on Feb. 17th. One goal of the presentation will be to establish a long term, strong relationship with the Commission. They will educate the Commission as to the importance of the community gardens and explore ways to create more gardens. Once the presentation is finalized Tim will share it with Wendy and Dryden Helgoe, RPC garden liaison for review and input.

6. Report on the Department of Sustainability Task Force Committee Meeting – Cris Gutierrez

Cris reported on the organization, Nature's Right Movement, and explained that their message is to recognize that the earth has certain rights that should be protected. Rod Gould, City Manager, attended the last task force meeting and reported on the financial status of the City in coming years. It was proposed that Rod be invited to a future garden advisory committee meeting or perhaps tour the gardens. One idea is to hold another workshop at a garden site in the spring and invite him to attend.

Cris reported Single Use Plastic Bag Ban will go before City Council in February.

7. Staff Updates – Wendy Pietrzak

- a. Garden Inspections: Wendy reported that in November there was one violation at Euclid, one at Park Drive and 10 at Main St. December was better with 0 at Euclid and Park Drive and 7 at Main St. Two small plots at Main Street have been filled.
- b. Compost give-a-way at City Yards is scheduled for Jan. 22nd, at 2500 Michigan. For more information gardeners can call 310.458.2223. If there is a substantial amount of compost left over they may be able to do a drop off at the gardens.

8. Public Input

No public input.

9. Meeting adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m.