



## COMMUNITY GARDENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** May 3, 2011  
**TIME:** 6:30 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4<sup>th</sup> St. Santa Monica, CA 90401

### 1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order by Tim Bowler, Chairperson at 6:40pm.  
Attendees were:

Tim Bowler - Main Street Gardener – Chairperson  
Francine Medeiros, Main Street Gardener – Vice-Chairperson  
Lisa Goodwin – Park Drive North Gardener – Committee Representative  
Don Singer – Park Drive South Gardener – Committee Representative  
Cordula Ohman – Main Street Gardener – Committee Representative  
Sylvia Carrillo – Euclid Park Gardener – Committee Representative  
Jeff Jarow – Main Street Gardener – Committee Representative  
Cris Gutierrez – Main Street Gardener  
Wendy Pietrzak – City Staff – Community Recreation

### 2. Approval of Minutes from January 12, 2011

A motion was made by Cris Gutierrez to approve the minutes from January 12, 2011 and was seconded by Cordula Ohman. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Tim reported the garden presentation before the RPC was rescheduled from February 17, 2011 to May 19, 2011. One of the main goals of the presentation is to re-connect with the Commission. He reported the presentation will consist of approximately ten slides consisting of a brief history/overview of the program, distribution map listing potential parcels of land in the City that may be converted to community garden plots, outline garden goals as they relate to the City's sustainability goals, report on the number of current waiting list gardeners, and provide updates on other gardening opportunities such as Garden Sharing Registry and partnerships with schools. The Committee requested that Wendy send out an email invitation to all licensed gardeners and waiting list gardeners encouraging them to attend the meeting and show their support.

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

Cris reported that Task Force has been focusing on zero waste projects, the Bike Master Plan, The Santa Monica College's sustainability efforts, the City's

single-use carryout bag ordinance, FDA considering genetically modified salmon, Right of Nature updates, and local food sustainability as it relates to the gardens. Cris made suggestions for future goals for the committee to work towards including making sure no green materials are wasted in the gardens; learn more about the Rights of Nature organization and movement; work with the Dept. of Sustainability to create and implement a data collecting program that would quantify topsoil creation by composting, local food production, water conservation and collection, biodiversity support and human and natural communities interactivity and self-sufficiency.

**5. Staff Updates – Wendy Pietrzak**

- a. Garden Inspections: Wendy reported that the average number of violations issued for Main Street is 8-10; Park Drive 3-4; and Euclid 0-1 each month. No current plot openings at any of the three sites.
- b. Garden Sharing Registry: Wendy gave a report on what has been done to market the program and outreach to the community to register more gardeners and homeowners. Reported there have been (9) matches to date
- c. Discussion on Possible Summer Workshops: No summer workshops have been scheduled. The committee hopes to get a work shop scheduled for the fall. Wendy asked if the Committee was interested in hosting a summer Open House this year and the Committee agreed. A date was set for Sunday, June 26, 2011 to coincide with the annual Main Street Summer Solstice. A planning committee was formed and will include Tim, Francine, and Cris. Wendy will provide support and assist with outreach to the licensed gardeners as needed.

**6. Public Input**

No public input.

**7. Meeting adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45p.m.