

## Harvest Farm at White Street Park

Minutes of the Managing Board Meeting  
Monday, May 13, 2013 - 4:30 pm

White Street Park ~ Suwanee, GA 30024

1. Call to Order – Chair Kim Thompson called the meeting to order at 4:30. In attendance were Julie Chaboune, Jeanne Haynes, Steve Kenney, Sara Kleinfeld and Jessica Roth. Dan Foster was absent.
2. Approval of March 11, 2013 and April 8, 2013 Minutes – There was a motion by Sara, seconded by Steve to approve the minutes as presented.
3. Adoption of Agenda – Julie made a motion, seconded by Sara to adopt the agenda as presented.
4. Updates on the Committees – Social Committee: Kim reported that the committee will host a Cook Out at the garden on June 8. The committee has decided not to do a Farm-To-Table event. She discussed the Northside Fence and Garden collaboration on Planting Day. It was agreed that even though there was a learning curve, it would be beneficial to do it again next year. Education Committee: Julie reported that a Container Class will be offered on June 1 at 10:00 at the garden. The instructor, Nancy Wallace will utilize the large empty barrel at the barn for her project. There is a Canning Class planned for July 27 at 9:00 and that it a tentative date. Fundraising Committee: Jeanne stated that the committee has not met since the first meeting. They will re-convene when a project has been identified. Project Committee: Steve discussed the difficulty of getting to each workday. The cold and rainy weather interfered with many of the workdays this year He will not be acting as coordinator going forward. A workday coordinator could be assigned from the large committee. A monthly work list, consisting of standing chores that need to be done every month, and special projects could be posted on the website. Charitable Giving Committee: Sara explained that 3 sub-committees have developed and they are working together very effectively.
5. Use of Lower Field – The goal is to develop a master plan and time line for the lower field. There was much discussion on how best to use the lower field and surrounding areas. Site work will be needed before any project begins. Existing underground utilities and the location of new utilities such as water, power and drainage lines need to be identified. The site should be graded to ensure proper drainage. The site has been cleared and is fairly level so grading should be minimal. Existing grasses and weeds will need to be removed. The following projects were discussed:
  - Blueberry bushes: Possible “U Pick” fundraiser. There is a local “U Pick” blueberry farm near North Gwinnett High School.
  - Strawberry Plot: Possible “U Pick” Fundraiser.
  - Pumpkin Patch: Possible fundraiser. Could compliment Scarecrow Contest and Harvest event. The big concern is the proliferation of hard to control squash beetles.

- Culinary/herb garden plot: Potential fundraiser. Sell annual memberships to cooks and small local restaurants.
- Large plots for vegetables such as corn, okra: Could be rented on an annual basis like smaller plots. Kim will send out an email to gauge interest among the gardeners. What sizes?
- Muscadines: Potential “U Pick” fundraiser.
- Corn maze: Potential fundraiser. The space may not be large enough.
- Pizza Garden: Could be in a round shape and planted to resemble pizza slices. Good children activity.
- Childs Play Area: Garden themed activities. Beanpole Tee-pee as an example.
- Mushroom Garden: In bog area.
- Garden Art: Bring a Sculpt Tour piece to the garden. What is the theme? Where should it be placed?
- Green House: Space could be rented to gardeners. Volunteer construction. Useful now and enhance future garden seasons.

There was general discussion about whether new plots should be raised or in-ground. New soil will be needed to supplement the hard clay. The composter may need to be relocated. All projects need to be coordinated with the City through Jessica. Scott may be able to help in the off-season. A possible irrigation feature for large plots would be individual faucets off of a single irrigation line. This would allow gardeners to install timer to regulate watering. It may be difficult to control unauthorized picking of “fundraiser” plots like blueberries or muscadines. Security cameras may be an idea for a future budget.

6. Website – Jessica explained that the website is back up as of the past weekend. Angie Farrell donated many hours to this effort. Wordpress may be a better format for the future. Angie will find a way to raise the profile of the site on Google so it is not so hard to find. Sara suggested that we interview volunteer gardeners who are interested in working on the site. We need a regular schedule for updates (similar to the former newsletter) so gardeners know when to expect them.
7. Education – This item was discussed under Committees.
8. Maintenance – Nothing to report.
9. Other – Kim will give the Board access to the garden Gmail account. Jeanne will be out of town for the June 10 meeting.
10. Adjournment – Kim adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

