

11/26 Garden Club Meeting Notes

In attendance: Mick, Betty Jean, Christina, Dee, Katrina, Alexis and son.

Old business

HOB concluded with over 600 hours of community service. Christina thanks everyone for all of their hard work.

Christina and Mick attended the District luncheon. There was a great talk on clematis and flower design. They received a copy of the state and greater seattle organization rules and a program meeting guide. Betty Jean will hold these in the Rokit office for safe keeping.

El Centro sent over a thank you note.

Treasury report, \$546.82 in our account. \$240 goes to garden house rental this year.

New business

Mick gave an update on el Centro. Planting should start 12/6. The greenhouse will be built on 12/12. Volunteers with trucks could help Mick the week of the 6th to move plants back.

Christina has reserved the garden house for the rest of the year. The meetings will be 1/28, 3/25, 5/27, 7/22, 9/23 and 11/25 for 2014.

The question was raised how to better partner and utilize resources between the different groups on the hill. Dee has offered Lewis Park group as a partner on different events. In December, Betty Jean has offered to start coordinating a summit of the the different groups to find out what everyone is working on. See who would like to partner, who has resources to share, etc.

Ideas for programs/events

Two kinds of projects, one is grant funded which must involve community and be open and free to the public. The second can be a fundraiser.

History of garden house, open it to the public.

Arbor Day is April 25th. The garden house is dedicating a tree to replace the fir on Arbor day. The club could buy trees and donate them to local organizations like the Food Forest, Lewis Park, Jose Rizal or el Centro. Alexis brought up that the city is giving away free ones as well. Also, the Chief Sealth trail could use some shade trees on the west side or near Dearborn school.

Alexis mentioned that area would be a great area for food growing. Christina mentioned that the city had done an inventory of available food growing areas in the city, which might be a good resource. <http://www.seattle.gov/environment/food.htm>

Dee also mentioned using Arbor day as a project they could take the lead on and draw people in for a work party.

Food Forest has plots for a fee for community organizations. Idea to get a plot, involve the Jefferson center teens with all stages of the garden. Grow food to eat, a farm to table idea. Could also have a row for the food bank and to seed save. Katrina mentioned a grant available from KGI that could help. <http://SowItForward.org>

Scarecrow contest that could be a fundraiser. It will be judged and prizes awarded. They could be

over by the food forest.

Little free library is still on the list.

Movie series, borrow a projector and show a movie with a speaker afterwards. Some possible titles are "Indigo" and "Gardening with soul."

Have a presence at the Beacon Hill Festival and Harvest fair, give away seeds and have a master gardener on hand to answer questions.

Soup swap in January. People can pay a small fee, bring 4-5 quarts of soup. Draw numbers and pick 5 varieties. Fundraiser.

Prune fest, hold until next year when we have more energy.

Art/garden walk can also do later. Start with a show as part of the Beacon Hill Festival and see if it grows.

Next year with the tree lighting ceremony maybe sell some mistletoe or wreaths. The garden house has the equipment to make wreaths that we could probably borrow.

Date night with date recipes. There was talk of camel and yak that can make special appearances.

Tomato tasting

Lewis park is looking into doing live stakes, live cuttings of the existing plants that are potted up. Dee is looking into what the restrictions are, can they be given away or sold. Red flowering currant, snowberries, and dogwood would be available.

Crafting with invasive plants, ivy and morning glory wreaths anyone?

Class on appropriate sized natives for the home landscape.

Duawmish rain garden walk. Seattle University students are putting together a walk to show rain gardens and talk about the improved water quality they bring. Possible to get funding to have people do rain gardens on the hill?

Katrina reported back from a class she attended at Bastyr, "The Garden as Healer: Preserving Biodiversity in growing at-risk medicinal plants." Shared materials from the class and the group United Plant Savers. This group promotes botanical sanctuaries of medicinal plants that are protected and can be used as a seed bank for future generations. There was a suggestion of using the small plot that the garden house has given us to be used for this purpose or that Lewis Park could incorporate some of this into their plantings. Katrina to look into further. <http://www.unitedplantsavers.org/content.php>

Several places to check out examples of ethnobotany trails and medicinal gardens include: Bastyr, Tribal life trail (<http://www.lakewildernessarboretum.org/content/tribal-life-trail>), and Daybreak Star Center.

