



NLR Community Garden Committee Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2015, 2:30–3:30 p.m.

Committee members present:

First Presbyterian Church Community Garden (Don Chambers)
NLR City Council (Beth White)
NLR Employee Garden (Jennifer Johansen)
NLR Fit 2 Live (Bernadette Gunn Rhodes, Sara Webb, Beau Cooper)
NLR Neighborhood Services (Dan Scott)
Skyline Community Garden (Diane Barton)
St. Joseph Community Garden (Ruth Landers)
St. Patrick's Community Garden (Robby McAllister)

Guests present:

Iris Park (Fred & Judy Cromwell)
St. Joseph Universal Institute of Theology Community Garden (Michael Merritt)

Agenda

2:30-2:40 **Welcome and introductions**

2:40-3:10 **Discussion: Funding Process**

- Application & Budget
Committee reviewed changes. Diane Barton suggested change in wording from “garden can only apply 1x/year” to “gardens can only receive funding 1x/year.”
- Disbursement frequency
Don Chambers made a motion that the disbursement method (1/4 of funding at a time) remain the same, but to allow gardens that have been established for 3+ years to request for one-time, full disbursement during the funding approval process. The garden’s track record in reporting would serve as the criteria for the committee’s decision. School District projects could request one-time disbursement as early as their first application.
Jennifer Johansen seconded the motion.
VOTE: Approved unanimously.
- Reporting
Tabled until next meeting.
- Program definition
Tabled until next meeting.

3:10-3:25 **Updates from garden managers**

Don Chambers suggested using garden funding to purchase a [Mantis](#) (small tiller that can till inside raised beds). No vote held.

Michael Merritt suggested doing a fundraiser for Fit 2 Live Gardens through his EBL (Elite Basketball League) team, the [North Little Rock Knights](#). Mr. Merritt will share additional information.

3:25-3:27 Upcoming events & change November meeting due to Thanksgiving?

Committee decided to postpone November meeting until December 9.

3:27-3:30 Public Comment

None.

3:30 Meeting Adjourned.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- **St. Joseph Center Harvest Festival:** Saturday, November 7, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM
- **Fit 2 Live Community Garden Manager Gathering:** Saturday, November 14, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Laman Library Room 126
- **Next Committee Meeting: Wednesday, December 9, 2:30-3:30 PM.**