



NLR Community Garden Committee Meeting Minutes

November 30, 2016, 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Committee members present:

NLR City Council (Beth White)

NLR Fit 2 Live (Bernadette Rhodes, Beau Cooper, Liz Kasper, Claire Vogelgesang)

St. Joseph Center of AR (Ruth Landers, Sandy Decoursey)

1st Presbyterian (Robert Fisher)

3:30-3:40 Welcome & Approval of Minutes

- Minutes approved- R. Fisher moved and B. White 2nd-ed
- Ruth stressed the importance of keeping harvest logs to be able to show improvement when requesting funds, especially when funding request specifically mentions promises of improvement. Committee agreed and Fit 2 Live will do more to encourage gardens to keep and report harvest and volunteer logs.

3:40-3:50 Fit 2 Live Updates

- Welcome back, Bernadette!
- Workshop on season extension this Saturday (Dec. 3rd) at 1st Pres. All are welcome to attend, but please try to let Liz or Claire know so they can know how much of their supplies they need to purchase.
- Fit 2 Live wants to keep some season extension supplies (hoops and row cover) on hand to give out to gardens. Especially as a way to introduce new gardeners to the concepts of season extension.
- Please contact Liz or Claire if you'd like help planning next year's garden.

3:50-4:25 Garden Updates

- 1st Pres Garden: lots of greens growing right now; harvested 34 lbs of sweet potatoes recently; still have lima beans producing; received insurance check for wall repair; met with Gordon at Home Depot to plan for installing irrigation system
- Hunger Relief Garden: recently harvested 1008 lbs of turnips and turnip greens, even after aphids took 1/3 of their crop; working on improving soil health and growing winter cover crops; would like to use \$700 from fall funding to supplement special call funding—will send a written request with details; the fence seems to have done its job in keeping the deer out
- St. Joseph Community Garden: still harvesting late summer and fall crops; have harvested over 3000 lbs of produce since January and have lots of volunteer hours documented as well; there will be a few plots available, and will recruit from waiting list first; fire ants continue to be a major problem- the spinosad is working but is expensive; there is a lot of maintenance for the garden and is a lot for 1 person to do- hope to spread out maintenance tasks more this next year; loofah gourds and roselle did great this last year; this weds. (Dec 7th) SJ will host an open house to commemorate Pearl Harbor- including a gift shop

- Baring Cross: beds are half cleared and half overgrown with Bermuda; currently lots of greens and cool weather crops planted; Salvation Army is selling the property and Summit Church is possibly buying it

4:25-4:30 Public Comment

- Suggestion that gardencorps members bring seeds and starts to monthly meetings
- On May 22nd, the state master gardeners will be touring community gardens in LR/NLR, including SJ community garden—more details to come