O'Fallon Garden Club Board Meeting Agenda
                                                   February 26, 2014

1) Call to Order: Meeting began @ 4:05, adjourned 6:15pm

2) Roll Call (Secretary):

Peg: In attendance: Sarah, Harlan, Peg, Carolyn, Edie, Jamie, Phil, Liz, Robert Fowler, Bob, Sterling, Mary Jean Hutchison. Later: Liz Oakley, Annie Skaggs,

3) Reports of Officers, Committee Chairs - Please limit to 5 minutes

a.  President

b.  Vice President:

Harlan: Inquiries about meeting at the library, talking to St. Louis Composting about discounted purchases, bylaws, and branding.

c.  Secretary/Treasurer

d.  Community Garden (Bob/Sterling)

BOB: Building projects: $1600 flower bed panels, $600 4x4 panels, then raised beds on site

8 Redbud trees will be planted and 1 lattice for 1 bed will be in by Arbor Day

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**Community Garden board meeting input for 26Feb 2014 meeting**

* The best information I have at this time is that spring will be coming a bit late. We can expect very cold weather though 8 March. Consequently there will be no work day on 1 March and we can expect our first vegetables [spinach, carrots, broccoli, potatoes, and beets] will not be planted until about 29 March. More to follow on this as we continue to watch the weather.
* A list of tasks that need to be completed at the community garden is attached to this report. There is also a list of structure work that needs to be completed.

**Community Garden tasks as of 24 Feb 2014**

1. Help Harlan finish moving the raised beds
2. Repair existing raised beds as necessary.
3. Till the soil in the raised bed and add more as needed
4. Spread the wood chips
5. Help Phil lower bird houses and clean them out and install a high wire for the birds to roost. { I have an idea for this.]
6. Install trellis for the Kiwi [involves digging holes, installing 3 posts, and cross members]
7. Cut smooth edge around all beds except the three long beds along State St.
8. Loosen up the mulch in all beds
9. Scrape, sand, and paint picnic tables.
10. Set up ne drum compost bin. Put down black plastic, put blocks under leg and level, and spread wood chips under.
11. Turn compost in current compost bins.
12. Repair the red wagon, replace the soil, plant new plants
13. Till veg beds one and two in preparation for planting broccoli, spinach, beets, potatoes, onions, carrrots
14. When we get things ready we will need to reconfigure 4 long flowerbeds along State St.

This involves **several phases**:

* Remove and harden in all plants from the beds, Use the east end of veg garden for holing area for plants. This space is available until late Apr.
* remove and stockpile the mulch from the beds,
* strip sod and till up untilled areas,
* build two berms in each bed,
* install lattice panels in each bed,
* plant the Redbuds and other plants,
* mulch.

**Structure Building tasks as of 24 Feb 2014**

1. Build new raised beds in space freed up by moving other beds.
2. Build lattice panels for four flower beds –We will likely build these in my garage. They will then have to be stained before installation.
3. Build lattice panels for three new garden entrances. This may be donated material for an eagle Scout project. –We will likely build these in my garage. Suggest the scout be responsible for having them stained before installation.

e.  Fundraising (Peg)

2014 Trivia night results: $5210 (1347 increase over 2013).

I feel we can make $6-7,000 next year with a few changes:

Bar sales: $1043.

* Next year we may be able to get outside donations for the beer, that way we will not be charged for opened boxes of beer
* It helped with all of the donations from members on soda & water.
* Serve less expensive wines by the glass & sell full bottles of premium

Table Sales: 2014 we sold 17 tables vs 20 last year – 2015 goal is a full house of 30 tables.

* I think if we have more outside volunteers to work the trivia night this would free up members to get tables together.
* Encourage all members to sell a couple of seats, if not tables.
* A full house of tables (30); more can be made at the bar and auction tables
* I plan on including my name on the trivia flyers to contact & pay me for tables in advance. This will encourage advance sales since guests will not have to go to the parks and rec office to pay- I could even use our new ‘Square’ to pay if I have to for credit cards.

Auction: $1871

* More raffles (big ticket items)The raffled items netted the most amount of money, averaging $95 per item, there were only a few auction items that high.
* More time allotted at breaks.
* Make auction item flyers in advance for members to distribute or review for themselves! This will let everyone know the variety and Quality of the baskets and increase the auction participants.

May Plant Sale: Last year our profits were $2077 (2nd sale at the library netted $615).

My suggestion is to eliminate the sale this year based on the volunteer hours needed for plant divisions since we are to all asked to volunteer hours for the upcoming community garden projects.

Respectfully yours,

Peg Stimson

f.   Historian  (Edie)

 Edie: Book is up to date

g.  Landscaping (Sarah/Carolyn):

Carolyn: Landscape Committee: Work day scheduled for March 8, 2014,  9am-12 noon, Sports Park. Annuals ordered, for Sports Park, Round-About and Community Garden, from Sandy's Back Porch

h.  Parks and Rec (Sarah)

Jamie was present along with Mary Jean Hutchison ; discussed approval for a restroom to be built in the proposed new shed at the CG…seems to be cost prohibitive due to ADA compliance….still a work in progress

i.   Programs (Phil):

Programs set. Dec topic on hummingbirds has been changed to ‘Garden to Table with Patty Taylor in Nov, Purple Martin colony

j.   Publicity (Liz)

Liz: Publicity:

BND, O’Fallon Progress, Gateway Gardener, Straight up Mag and Scott Flyer calendar submissions each week

Updated multiple online calendar websites & local radio stations

Addition to the Summer Brochure published by Parks and Recreation (due March 15). Inside front cover. Work day advert to replace the trivia night information <http://issuu.com/ofallonparks/docs/web_2013_opr_winter_brochure_no_mar>

Attachment A

Submission of the Girl Scout Garden Project (due Feb 28). Attachment B

**My discussion points for the board meeting:**

Old Business:

1. the monthly attendance prizes decision
2. Website Design
	1. Pages are coming along. I really appreciate the information requests and patience as I work on these. Still working on history, landscape committee pages (sports park), Veteran’s Daffodil page, membership page, and plans and picture pages.

New Business:

1. Nominate Robert Fowler as Youth Coordinator under Publicity as POC for youth projects.

**My discussion points for the general meeting:**

General Meeting item:

1. Ask members to continue save newspapers and magazine articles that they find relating to the garden club press.
2. Any interest in writing 300-400 words on topics pertaining to their gardening experiences or tips for submission to local media. Ideas for Spring Garden Planning: Growing from Seed, companion planting, soil preparation ideas. Please email midwestcrabs@charter.net

Respectfully Submitted

Liz Crabtree

Attachment A:

Parks and Recreation Addition to Publication

Community Garden Work Days

June – September

Monday & Thursday mornings and every other Saturday (see website for details)

8 am –11 am, corner of State and Smiley Streets

Come play in the dirt with the O’Fallon Garden Club at our Community Garden Work Days. Learn to grow your own, rehabilitate soil, and attract pollinators to the garden as we tend and grow fruits and vegetables for the O’Fallon Food Pantry. The garden beds and vegetable patch in O’Fallon always have something buzzing or blooming this time of year. Come by and lend a hand. You can dig deeper at [www.ofallongardenclub.org](http://www.ofallongardenclub.org).

k.  Awards (Al) not present

4)  Old Business

a.  Community Garden Landscape Planning Meeting;

 Mary Jean submitted running water on both sides of CG, should be completed by April

Liz Oakley submitted her plans using our existing plants for CG. Her fee is $350, includes display boards with architectural renderings. Will bring to meeting 3/3.

b.  Bee Enclosure

 Apiary sign approved

c.  By-Laws:

Harlan will speak to lawyer (has had them on his desk for months….) Plan to submit at March meeting, members will have 1 month to review and vote at April meeting for approval.

5)  New Business

1. Membership Meeting Site:

Due to meetings being scheduled and conflicting with ours at Katy Cavins, may continue at Rock Springs future meetings

 b.  Plant Sale:

Robert Fowler is interested in heading up the plant sale, to discuss and bring up at meeting.

c.  POC for Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts/Youth organizations:

Robert volunteered to work with youth groups for garden club projects

  d.  Election of Vice President:

Nominating committee nominated Harlan Gerrish. Will put forth to membership for anyone interested in the position. Vote will be held at March meeting.

  e.  University of Illinois Extension Fundraiser:

Edie & Carolyn are chairing this fundraiser. The St. Clair County Extension and Education Foundation is hosting the “Taste of the Area” fundraiser on March 15th form 5:00-8:00 pm at the Regency Conference Center in O’Fallon.  Tickets are $20 in advance and $25 at the door.  Funds generated from the event support Extension programing including Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists.

f.   General Membership Meeting - March 4th, 6:30 pm, Rock Springs Cabin

g.  Next Board Meeting - March 26th, 4:00 - Katy Cavins

h.  District V Annual Meeting - March 27th, 9 am registration, Trenton:

$15 fee for lunch is due 3/14

Other discussions:

Monday, March 03, 2014 the board will be given an award for sustainability at the City Council.

May indoor décor at library, display for 1 month

Sweatshirts will be ready to be picked up at March meeting

Prepared by Peg Stimson

3-3-14