

Rose Roots Community Garden Minutes
Rose Roots Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 8, 2025, 6:00 pm
Location: Google meet



Steering Committee Attendance					
Erin Newton, Vice President	Y	Laura Bennett, President	Y	Jim Richards, Operations	Y
Patty Sacks, West Side Lead / Volunteer Activity Coordination	Y	Maggie Alcorn, Administrator	Y	Gary Williams, Operations	N
Tom Glum, Treasurer	Y	Aaron Amaya-South Pollinator	Y	Jack Nix	Y

6:00 Call to Order-RR Mission: To restore bonds between people, food and nature and to work together to create a better local food system for future generations.

Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm

Officer Reports

President—Laura

- Membership is still open and Dan Graumiller has been a great help managing the membership spreadsheet.
 - 11 returning gardeners have not yet signed up. They have until April 15th to decide.
 - Plots not picked up will be made available to any potential new gardeners.
 - Two half plots and 1 raised bed plot are also available to be rented this season.
- Opening Day – **April 26th**, 9am to 12pm
 - Laura will send out an Evite a couple weeks ahead and will be in contact with the City to confirm water will be turned on by that date
 - Light breakfast food (muffins, pastries, fruit) and drinks will be provided
 - Opening Day To Dos: Empty barns and clean, clean up trash, clean tools, get hoses out and to plots, check/clean up compost areas (possibly have training for new gardeners), clean troughs and pollinator beds in Westside area, clean up South Pollinator garden (Aaron to supervise), possible build of third compost area (although Jack would like to complete this task before opening day)
- Projects for the 2025 season:
 - Compost bins:
 - Edges of the bins need reinforcement, as they have been bowing out when compost piles build up.
 - Gravel does not work well for the mowing area - suggestion to add bricks instead
 - Children's area (May Project)
 - Jack has already added 16 bags of sand; looks amazing
 - Suggestion for addition of new toys

- Suggestion to make a request in the first newsletter for donation of a new playhouse
- New signage (May projects)
 - Food Forest – many of the metal signs are broken
 - Compost areas – current wood signs not holding up for the entire season; need more durable product large enough to clearly outline the DOs and DON'TS of what goes in compost piles
 - Chalkboards – Tom to order 2 additional (5 total) – these will be placed at the West Gate and the back shed
- Benches west side-
 - Jack and Patti to assess best places for benches and how to anchor
 - Sue Donaldson bench-donated by Dan Donaldson and family; Dan and Jack have already installed and it faces West outside the children's garden
- Go Farm
 - Five women are heading up the space this year, and have already started farming
 - The group is very excited to work with RR, and we are looking forward to working with them
 - CSAs – they are hoping to have several, and looking for help from us to get the word out
 - Tessa is the director – will be meeting with Laura
- DUG update
 - DUG member at garden (Osiris, mktg dept) - GREAT resource and liaison between DUG and RR; will keep RR informed throughout the summer of all that DUG is doing and the many resources available to us
 - Free seeds – 100s made available by DUG and brought to RR by Osiris; pollinator gardens will benefit; many will be offered to gardeners on opening day
- Filming at garden- a couple who have retired from IT work have plans to use RR as a backdrop for a film; filming expected in May; a Go Farm gardener will be featured in the film
- Workshops
 - DUG
 - Gina Schley (of She Grows) - Garden Plot Setup
 - Others? – Laura asked committee members to come up with ideas for next meeting
- Compost clinics – Laura will work with Bill Ott on opening day to plan future clinics (a clinic may be conducted on Opening Day if the new area is ready)
- Fight Hunger Program- RR receives funds each season from King Soopers (through shopper sign ups); this season, we received \$529, which will be used toward new signs for the south pollinator garden and food bank (veggie van) plots.

Vice President—Erin

- Will update all email addresses
- All steering committee members should let her know any items that should go into the first newsletter

Treasurer—Tom

- Tom and Laura to review the overall budget and budget requests submitted by Operations and all Garden Leads
- Final 2025 season budget to be presented at May meeting

Membership—Laura

- 25 new gardeners this season – amazing new energy
- All but three orientations have taken place

Operations—Gary and Jim

Produce Donations

Carryover Action Items:

May Meeting:

- Steering Committee to think about additional garden projects
- Hear Patti and Jack decision on plan for installation of benches
- Continue discussion of best education resources for gardeners – do's and don'ts of compost pile discards

May Completion:

- New signage installed for Food Forest plots and Compost areas
- Finish updates to Children's play area (toys, playhouse)
- Two new chalkboards purchased, and chalkboard teams will start writing on the boards
- Installation of benches
- Filming to happen at Rose Roots (retired couple new to RR)

Garden Lead Requests:

- **Food Forest** – potential projects:
 - The mint needs to be thinned/controlled.
 - Roses need to be pruned.
 - Paths could use a new layer of mulch.
 - With the mint thinned, new plants could go in: lavender, hyssop, chamomile, thyme, echinacea, yarrow
- **Food Forest with Apple Tree** – potential projects:
 - Grasses need to be removed,
 - Paths need a new layer of mulch
 - Remove plants that are growing in the path.
 - Tree needs pruning and stabilizing (leaning quite a bit).
 - Add black-eyed susans
- **East Side Food Forest** – potential projects:
 - Bonnie has volunteered to do some maintenance on the plants this year, and will remove grasses; more help will be needed next year for more labor-intensive tasks.
 - Thin bee balm.
 - Watch rhubarb this season to see if it recovers--grasshoppers have decimated.
 - Paths are being overgrown with bee balm--need to re-establish path.
 - Add black-eyed susans, echinacea, hyssop, replace rhubarb if it doesn't bounce back
- **East Side Food Donation Areas** – Plot Need Requests:
 - Large bag of Diatomaceous Earth and Applicator (last year was very challenging with the

- wide variety of pests - D.E. should be a great help)
- Assortment of the following plants:
 - Peppers
 - Tomato
 - Eggplants
 - Cucumbers
 - Leeks
 - Seed Potatoes
 - Onion Sets

This area will be supplemented with seed / plant donations from other sources.

- **East Side Mini Pollinator Garden – Plot Need Requests:**
 - At end of season, 2024, this area was cleaned up, many old and overgrown plants removed
 - Some perennial plantings were added / thinned.
 - Needs for this season:
 - Flowering bush / dwarf tree
 - Several herbs (flowering)
 - Flower bulbs / tubers

This area will be supplemented with seed / plant donations from other sources