

Rose Roots Community Garden Minutes
Rose Roots Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, Sept 9 , 2025, 6:00 pm
Location: Rose Roots Community Garden Pavillion



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

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 6:02 pm

Officer Reports

President—Laura

- **Service Days**
 - **September 27th – 9am to 12pm - Crown Point Charter School**
 - 15 middle school students coming to volunteer, along with adults
 - Projects:
 - Weeding (always needed)
 - Creation of two scarecrows– Laura picked up clothing at Global Thrift; straw available from food donation plots; Operations will cut wood; Jim’s wife to sew heads
 - Paint kids’ rounds in the children’s play area
 - Water westside and along south side of garden outside of fence, especially feather grass (where automatic sprinklers don’t reach)
 - Sending evite for garden members (chance for volunteer hours), since the last work day we had for all the gardeners was in May
 - **October 25 – 9am to 1pm - Garden Closing Event**
 - Evite will go out two weeks ahead

- Potluck breakfast – participants to bring their choice of breakfast items
- This is the event when the barn is given a good cleaning, especially the refrigerator, and all hoses, benches, wheelbarrows, wagons etc are moved into the barn, shed or the lean-to

- **New Project Discussions:**

- **Memorial Rock Garden**

- For development next season
- Placement in the Westside area
- Laura met with the artist who designed the memorial garden at Westwoods golf course; the artist and her partner offered to create sculptures (pro bono) to be installed next season
- Patty and Laura will meet again with the artists middle of October to discuss a rock memorial (with names of gardeners no longer with us) and the artists' ideas for the sculptures

- **Security Cameras/Signage to stop theft at RR**

- Security camera in use signs purchased and will be positioned at each gate and in pavillion
- Motion sensors/lighting already installed at the barn; additional motion sensors/lighting will be placed at the center pavilion and back shed
- Security camera (wireless and solar) for the barn would cost about \$40 and \$20/month for security camera cloud storage. Approved. Laura will find out if the cloud service can be shut down over the winter to eliminate that monthly cost.

- **Shout Outs to:**

- Jason and his group for the great job done by them on Sept 3rd
- Gardeners making Veggie van donations – keep them coming!!
- Calvin for his donation of corn at the last music event (everyone LOVED it!!)
- Hummin birds music
- Laura Berkabile and Andrea for working on the children's mural – almost complete
- Taegan for helping research security options for garden
- Osiris for helping with DUG coordination and providing signage and DUG support
- Mike Kelly for offering to create a rain-proof cover for the shed pergola pro bono

- **Update on 2025 Season Projects**
 - **Children's area revamp:**
 - Laura Berkabile will be finished painting the mural before the end of the season
 - Balance beam (low to the ground) – hoping to add next season
 - Mike Kelly will complete a roofing system for the pergola which will result in a 2” angled drop (for rain runoff) and a corrugated steel cover - to be done by end of September at no cost to RR
 - **New signage**
 - Food Forest – Steve Simms will be cutting the wood for new posts for these signs (Jim to follow-up with him and see if there are any other needs for signs to be updated)
 - Compost areas
 - Osiris has provided a second sign from DUG, which allows for both compost areas to have signage
 - Operations to check on availability of pressure-treated wood to create posts for the signs – will install signs to the left side of each compost bin
 - Lean To sign – new sign has been cut; Laura will work with Heather to create; operations will install
 - **Benches west side**
 - Decision was made to hold off on installation until next season (eliminate winter weather wear and tear)
- **Go Farm** – Gardeners should be aware that the dumpsters at the top of the parking lot are for go farm only; will note again in the newsletter
- **Dumpster** for 2025 end-of-season cleanup – The father of one of our gardeners has a business that rents out “roll offs.” Jim will pursue. We could offer to include signage that would direct gardeners to that business if they are in need of a roll off in the future.
- **Website revamp.** Gardeners won’t see changes this season. Work on the website will go on during the off season, with the “new and improved” site coming together for 2026 season.
- **New business**
 - Beneficial nematodes for fall and spring. Operations will contact Gina for her help in understanding the process and best type for our area.
 - Garden hoses near the children’s play area have been left on twice – Operations will locate sprayers in barn or shed to attach to hose, which will eliminate flooding
 - Signage needed for play area – to encourage gardeners with children who use the play area to check that it is left in good shape when they are leaving

- Hooks needed on an outside wall of barn and shed – to hang the “water me” and “harvest for veggie van” signs and eliminate the current clutter; Operations to handle
- Prospective Workshops for next season
 - Some new gardeners are showing interest
 - How to use garden differently-dying with grains, making tea etc
 - Flower workshop-build your own bouquet
 - How to – canning water bath style (Jim)
- Jack – recent surgery. Need water me signs in his garden and caring gardeners

Treasurer—Tom

- Any board members or garden team leads with outstanding receipts should submit to Tom as soon as possible to keep our accounts up to date.

Membership—Laura

- Closing day October 25th
- Evite will go out in October to ask gardeners if they are planning to come back in 2026. Need more time for planning/contacting waitlist people. This year, the process was rushed.

Produce Donations

- We all should be continuing to spread the word - gardener to gardener – produce should never be wasted:
 - If you can't use all that is ready in your garden, take to the barn for pick up
 - If you're going to be away, post Harvest for Veggie Van signage
- Newsletter will continue to advertise the new Harvest for Veggie Van sign availability and encourage donations

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.