

Colwood Garden Society



Colwood Garden Society Meeting of the Board Sunday, October 11 @ 9:30 am in the Colwood Garden

In attendance: Marnie Lator, Naomi Ellis, Astrid Wilson, Bonnie Keleher

Meeting was called to order at 9:35 pm

- 1) Minutes from previous meeting, AGM held on Sept. 19, were adopted. Motion was seconded.
- 2) Bonnie asked that an item about file storage be added to the agenda. Agenda was adopted. Motion was seconded.
- 3) Treasurers Report
 - Naomi E reported that there is currently \$9460 in the bank account.
 - The cheque from the City of Colwood has now been deposited.
 - Thank you to Rob and Krys for taking in the bottles from the bottle drive. The amount was \$56.30 cash. Naomi will set this amount aside for petty cash.
 - Etransfer fees from Coast Capital Credit are \$1.50 per transaction. This seems to be more than other local credit unions are charging.
 - Each month about \$30 in interest is received from the current grant money held in a savings account. This interest is being transferred into the CGS main bank account.
- 4) No report from the City Hall Liason
- 5) Jackie L was not in attendance, so Naomi E reported on Membership. One garden bed has not been used for 2 consecutive years. The individual currently assigned that garden bed has been contacted on numerous occasions with little or no response. As per the lease agreement, "lack of activity will result in the termination of the lease." The Board has agreed that the lease will be terminated and provided to another individual for 2027.
- 6) Bonnie reported that the website has been updated to include the information about the AGM as well as the proposal for the new garden in West Lagoon Park.
 - The Domain certificate annual fees came due this month with Bluehost and other domain fees coming again in April 2027. Previously the website costs were being covered by a board member's personal credit card, which they were reimbursed for. Bonnie proposed that the Society acquire a credit card in order to cover these online expenses.
 - ACTION: Naomi will speak to the Coast Capital Credit Union about a society credit card.
 - Bonnie had previously recommended that the Board consolidate important Society documentation online, so avoid loss of this information. She requested that the Society consider using Sync.com, a Canadian based data storage company. Marnie has previous experience with Sync.com and says that there is a free non-profit option. She will provide this information to Bonnie.
 - ACTION: Bonnie will contact Sync.com to set up a CGS file storage site. And will subsequently notify board members to develop a process for storing CGS documentation.
- 7) Metal Garden boxes versus Wood Garden boxes.
 - Jackie Laurie provided a written summary comparing the cost of wood garden boxes to metal garden boxes. Although the initial cost of metal garden boxes is considerably more than wooden boxes, the metal boxes have a guaranteed life of 7 to 10 years. When considering the deterioration of the wood, nails, rebar, disposal of waste materials, etc. The galvanized metal garden boxes appear to be about the same cost as wood boxes. This does not include the additional volunteer hours maintaining the wood garden boxes. The current cost of a 3'X10'X26" garden box (dimensions for an accessible garden box) is

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about \$415. Replacing the current accessible beds would provide the board with the opportunity to evaluate the metal boxes for possible future consideration.

MOTION: TO purchase 3 galvanized metal 3'X10'X26" garden boxes to replace the current accessible garden beds. Seconded. Motion passed.

ACTION: Jackie L will move forward on ordering 3 galvanized metal garden boxes.

8) Due to the municipal election, there will be NO work party on Sat. Oct. 17. The next work party will hopefully focus on the installation of the 3 new metal garden boxes. The date for that work party will be announced by email as soon as there is a ETA on the metal boxes.

9) Environmental Expo at the Church of the Advent on Sat. Oct. 17.
Bonnie K, Jackie L and Sue P have agreed to represent the CGS at this event. They will set up an information table and will possibly do a short presentation.

10) Next Board meeting will be held on SUNDAY, November 8 at 9:30 am. Location to be determined by the weather.

11) Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.