

## Eco Gardeners February 19, 2024 Minutes of Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:08.
2. **Quorum**  
23 members Present, 10 required for business
3. **Minutes of December Meeting**  
The minutes of the January 2024 meeting were read and approved.
4. **Treasurer's Report**
  - a. Opening Balance           \$ 2129.88
  - b. Income                     \$825.00 (deposits)
  - c. Expenses                 \$150.58 (Dues, Deposits, Web site expenses)
  - d. Closing Balance         \$2804.30

### 5. **Old Business**

Report From the President:

On Tuesday January 23rd, six of us went and met with Shannon Prince OTOW Recreation Program Director.

- Frank did a detailed 30 minute presentation on why OTOW should replace the wood for all of our plots.

Including a recommended design by Jeremy Rhodes (Urban & Residential Horticulture Agent and master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator). Who happens to be our guest speaker today. As a side note: I myself at plot #15 installed this design if you wish to see it.

- Phil did two presentations

-The need for plumbing additions, to drain water from each plot's line during freezing weather.

- Potholes and dirt washing out near the gate entrance

- Gayle gave a presentation requesting OTOW to hang an owl box that would be purchased by our club.

Shannon was receptive to our concerns, but had to forward all info onto her supervisor. She did say this year's 2024 budget was closed.

Jerritt Weaner (OTOW Facilities Maintenance Director) and Lee McCroskey did meet with the garden club board on Tuesday 2.13 at our gardens for face to face discussions.

#### **Replacement of wood:**

Jerritt was skeptical of the new design being approved. He said our request is more of a redesign for the current wood boarders. He did say that if people put in a work order request thru customer service, then rotten wood could be replaced. Or warped wood straightened with stakes.

#### **Adding of plumbing to be able to drain each individual plot's water lines:**

Jerritt did not see a true need for our request. His solution was to wrap rags around our pipes during frost/freezing events.

**Potholes:**

Jerritt said what we really need is a parking lot. But not much discussion beyond that.

**Owl house:**

Jerritt said the mounting of an owl house was the easiest of all requests. Dave brought up last month about where we might be able to donate excess produce. No further information at this time.

**6. New Business**

Report from the President

Mike Zeller is filling in for Jeff, who was unable to attend today's club meeting. And I truly thank him for this assistance today.

The four wheeled flat garden cart needs to be replaced. At least one weld is broken. And the tubed tires are rotting and some are flat. For \$105.00 (before tax) one can be ordered on Amazon that has "no flat" wheels. Unless someone can find a similar cart at a better price.

Mike ask for a motion to order the new cart. A motion was made and passed without dissent.

There was discussion on the plan for the ECO Garden to supply excess produce to appropriate groups. There were several suggestions but no progress or consensus on any action at this time.

Arlene raised the question of moving forward on the club potluck. The consensus was to move forward on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in April. No club funds are required.

Jeremy Rhodes, from the Marion County Extension Office, made a presentation on the importance of knowing your PH in gardens, creating better soil, bug identification and more. A PDF of the presentation was made available for publication on the Garden Website.

**7. Remarks for the Good of the Club**

None.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned as Jeremy and the club members moved to the garden to discuss garden topics.