

Eco Gardeners Club Meeting Minutes September 16, 2024

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:15pm. 19 members were in attendance, constituting a quorum (10 required).

2. The minutes of the May 2024 meeting were read and approved.

3. Treasurer's Report

- a) Opening Balance \$2647.33
- b) Income \$225.00 (dues)
- c) Expenses \$125.47 (deposits returned, mower rental, maintenance items)
- d) Closing Balance \$2746.86

4. Old Business

The Plot Wood Improvement Project was discussed. The Board will meet with Shannon Prince for the purpose of placing the club's request into the OTOW budgeting process. The proposal to OTOW will contain the following items:

- a) Straighten Existing Plot Borders, as Required
- b) Replace any existing rotted wood (by agreement with OTOW)
- c) Raise all beds by installing 2 x 10's around plot perimeter
- d) Fill newly raised beds with soil

These items are being submitted for the purpose of developing a budget with OTOW. The items are not final and are subject to negotiation with OTOW.

5. New Business

- a) A motion was made to delete the text "for 6 months" from item 8 of the Policies & Procedures. Motion carried unanimously.
- b) Phil discussed the soil analysis options that are available through UF/IFAS. There are analyses for \$3, \$10 and \$30. The \$3 test is limited in scope, while the \$30 option is the most comprehensive for club members. The slides containing further information are available at the club website on the "Links" page; under "Sample Soil Analysis".
- c) A video from UF/IFAS showing how to obtain a soil analysis is provided on the club website on the "Links" page; under "Sample Soil Analysis"
- d) Phil showed pictures of damage caused by Nematodes in our garden plots. Phil also discussed organic treatment options for reducing nematode damage. Some members expressed concern of these treatments could cause long term problems on our gardens. Phil said he would look into this matter further and advise at the October meeting. The list of the resources is on the club website on the "Links" page; under "Pests/Diseases". Members are encouraged to examine these items and advise their comments at the October meeting.

6. Remarks for the Good of the Club

- a) We have the Pool Pavilion reserved for October 14 at 12:30 pm for a Potluck. That is the 2nd Monday in October. This is a social gathering; no business will be conducted at the Potluck. The regular business meeting will be held on October 21 at 1:15 pm in the Hobby Building Event Room.
- b) Members are encouraged to bring excess seeds to the business meetings. The seeds should be labeled identifying the type & variety of the seed. A table will be set up in the meeting room for this purpose.
- c) Thanks to Richard Kerski for the new signs at the garden plot.
- d) Members were asked to sign up to share their knowledge at future meetings.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 2:20