

POSH SQUASH STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes: May 06, 2021

Due to the pandemic, this meeting was conducted entirely via Zoom.

Les Grober called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. In attendance were Barbara Gomes, Bill Mutch, Bonnie Coffey-Smith, Dennis Pedersen, Eileen Kallaway, Glenn Meade, Gretchen Meyer, Harriet Rose, Jim Nybakken, Les Grober, Marcia Nybakken, Paddy Batchelder, Tristan Colson, and Ursula Waskey.

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Tristan

- a. The May 2021 Meeting Agenda was approved.
- b. The April 2020 Steering Committee Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Chair's Report: Les

- a. The committee took a vote and decided to keep holding the monthly meetings on Zoom, rather than resuming in person meetings.
- b. There have been some concerns expressed about the Saturday watering signups, including people not remembering, not knowing how to water, and not being able to see the sign-up sheet except when in the garden shed. Tristan set up a small test of a site called signupgenius.com with Glenn, Monique, Les and Jeanne, and we determined that:
 - * it is fairly simple to use (the RCMS vaccine clinics have been successfully using this for signups also)
 - * it provides email reminders to the people who sign up
 - * the list of sign-ups is easily accessible on-line
 - * while there is a paid version, so far it seems like the free version will provide the functionality we need**ACTION:** Tristan will invite the entire steering committee to try it (as a test only, not for real signups) and collect feedback
- c. **ACTION:** Day leaders should encourage their gardeners to water at least once during the week before their Saturday watering
- d. **ACTION:** Day leaders should remind their gardeners that there is a how-to watering video on the website
- e. We would like to increase the membership in the planting team.
ACTION: Day leaders: encourage someone from your garden day to join the planting team, especially for those days that do not have a representative now.
- f. Covid masks are no longer required in the garden for vaccinated gardeners. We agreed that for visitors, they are now allowed as long as they are accompanied by a gardener, and that they should conform to the same mask rules (wear a mask if not fully vaccinated).
ACTION: Tristan to change the signs on the gates to reflect this
- g. There have been several issues with people driving too fast both in the Sea Ranch Supply parking lot, and on the Baker property leading to the garden. An email has been sent out to all gardeners about this. For SRS in particular, everyone should adhere to the speed limit of 5mph, and should stay to the outside perimeter of the parking lot.
ACTION: Day Leaders: Please remind your gardeners to drive slowly and carefully.
- h. No updates on the solar tool/electric hookup for charging tools.
ACTION: Les to investigate this.

3. Treasurer's Report/Budget: Marcia

- a. Profit and Loss report is in appendix.
- b. Everything is going well.
- c. Thanks to Paddy for creating more jars of Herbes de Posh.
- d. Terry Slaman has been taking beautiful photos of the garden for the Thursday group – Marcia would like to encourage other days to perhaps designate a photographer and provide photos.

ACTION: Day Leaders: encourage your gardeners to take photographs, and send them to either Marcia or Tristan.

- e. Jim pointed out that for the rental payments for the garden, there are two checks, and the Baker family check has not been cashed.

ACTION: Les to check with Kyle about why the check has not been cashed

4. Planting Team: Ursula, Monique

- a. Email about watering attached at end of these minutes.
- b. From last month, we talked about putting the planting team article about compost on the website, after Jeanne reviewed it. Since Jeanne wasn't at this meeting:

ACTION: Tristan to ask Jeanne if we can post the compost article

5. Water Team: Les

- a. Bruce has figured out how to fix the failing hose bibs. It has been determined that the quarter turn valves are not a good idea, as they are bad for the water pressure, so we will be continuing to use the gate valves. These must be turned on completely to get the full flow of water.
- b. Bob has apparently recommended that the timers should be turned on before opening the valve.

ACTION: Tristan to find out the reason why (since no one in the meeting was sure), and add that information to the watering video if necessary.

6. Project Team: Jim

- a. The team is working on bed repairs and compost bin repairs.
- b. After that work will begin on rebuilding beds 9 and 11. Note that these beds will not be used for planting this season.

7. Water Conservation: Les

- a. See attached document from Les, as well as the information from the planting team also attached.
- b. Les has been testing the soil moisture in various beds, and analyzing the amount of watering per bed. Additional information has been added to the watering sheet about this.
- c. The watering team will be looking into leakage in the irrigation system.
- d. Note that the use of open hoses to water is very inefficient and should be avoided whenever possible.
- e. This is all in service of trying to reach the Sea Ranch goal of 10% less water usage.

8. Rules and Procedures: Les

- a. No update yet on member picking rules
ACTION: Les to provide update at next meeting

9. Appointments: Les

- a. The committee voted to add Jody Nunez (Monday AM gardener) to the planting team.

10. Comments/Questions: All

- a. One of the two lawn mowers has been tagged as needing repair (the blade guard needs to be reattached).
ACTION: Jim to look at the lawnmower
- b. There is no 24" weed cloth. Jeanne has been the one cutting it to that size.
ACTION: Jeanne to make some more 24" weed cloth.
- c. Day Leaders should make a note of supplies we are about to run out of so that they can be replaced in a timely manner.
- d. Some items on the chore lists seem to be getting completed but are not always marked as completed. Day Leaders should be attentive to this, as it makes planning easier for the days later in the week.
- e. The gasoline for the shredders and mowers is getting low. Jeff is usually the one to handle this, but doesn't necessarily want to do it for always.
ACTION: short-term, the Friday team will find someone to do it this time.
- f. For longer term, Dennis says that Whyte Owen (Wed gardener) would be interested in being responsible for power tools, especially if it can be a shared responsibility. There is a Tuesday gardener (Diana?) who has also expressed interest.
ACTION: Tues and Wed day leaders to get White and Diana together, and connect with Jeff, to see if power equipment team can be formed.
- g. There was a discussion of hand vs power grinding wheels, and whether the generator can be used for this. It is believed that a grinding wheel is present somewhere in the garden, and if not both Les and Jim have volunteered to provide one.
ACTION: Les to find out if there is a grinding wheel, and if not, to bring one
- h. Marcia would like someone to be the person in charge of purchasing. So far no one has expressed interest.
- i. There was a question about stopping the use of straw for planting – because Bill Wong still needs it for the compost bins, and Amy for the hoophouse. It may have something to do with herbicides?
ACTION: Jeanne: explain any issues about not using straw
- j. The Alinders are leaving TSR sometime this summer, and since Mary especially is a long time gardener, we want to do something special for them. Everyone should think about time and it will be discussed next meeting.
- k. The question was asked about when we can resume having breaks around the picnic table. It was decided that this is up to the individual days, and what they are comfortable doing and when.

11. Next Meeting and Adjournment:

- a. The next meeting will be on Thursday June 3, 2020 at 1:30 pm, via Zoom.
- b. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tristan Colson, Secretary

Appendix 1: Profit and Loss as of 3-31-21

Posh Squash Profit and Loss as of 4-30-21 with Approved 2021 Budget

		2020 Actuals Jan - Apr	2021 Actuals Jan - Apr	Approved 2021 Budget	Variance under or (over) 2021 Budget	Notes
Ordinary Income/Expense						
	Income					
	Cookbooks/Calendars	0	0	0	0	
	Herbs de Posh	0	0	0	0	
	Honey Sales	0	0	0	0	
	Membership	16,480	17,600	16,640	(960)	Budget based on 104, now 110
	Silent/Wine Auction			2,000	2,000	Est. net earnings
	Total Income	16,480	17,600	18,640	1,040	
Expenses						
	JW Compost/Dirt	1,787	2,696	3,000	304	
	JW Cover Crop	0	0	140	140	
	JW Fertilizer	79	163	350	187	
	JW Seeds	725	813	825	12	
	RB, DP Non-seeds (Plants) (taters, garlic, etc)			100	100	
	Total Compost, cover crop, dirt, other	2,592	3,672	4,415	743	
	General Supplies	206	103	900	797	
	LL, BH Greenhouse Supplies	529	427	1,300	873	
	MN Lease	750	1,500	1,500	0	Baker check not yet cashed
	JN Maintenance, Supplies, Equipment					
	Equipment, repairs & gas	54	65	700	635	Lawn mower, weed whacker
	Hand tools, wheelbarrows	109	150	300	150	Ladder, wheelbarrow, etc.
	Wood, hardware, other	272	64	1,800	1,736	
	Total Maintenance, Supplies, Equipment	434	279	2,800	2,521	
	Services					
	BG Dump Fees	30	0	100	100	
	MN Bank Fee	0	0	0	0	
	MN AED	0	0	0	0	
	MN Office Supplies & PO Box	0	0	100	100	
	Total Services	30	0	200	200	
	LG Water	1,068	1,144	6,000	4,856	62,148 gals thru 4/27/21
	LG, BS, BVS Water hardware - irrigation					
	Backflow Test	0	65	65	0	2020 testing paid in 2021
	LG, BS, BVS Water hardware - irrigation - Other	75	211	1,350	1,139	
	Total Water hardware - irrigation	75	276	1,415	1,139	
	LG, GM Misc - work parties, photos, website	0	175	175	(0)	New website costs
	Total Expenses	5,684	7,576	18,705	11,129	
	Net Ordinary Income	10,796	10,024	(65)		
	Other Expense					
	Capital Projects					
	AVS, JN Hoop House	1,022	339	350	11	South end panel
	JW Raspberry Beds	0	0	0	0	
	JW Blueberry Beds	0	0	0	0	
	Total Capital Projects	1,022	339	350	11	
	Net Other Income	9,773	9,685	\$ (415)		
	Balance on hand as of 12/31/2019	9,518				
	Balance on hand as of 12/31/2020	28,289				Includes \$16,640 prepaid for 2021
	Total Balance as of 4/30/21	21,260				
	Projected Balance as of 12/31/2021	10,131				

Appendix 2: Planting Team Report

It is really difficult to add these multiple page PDF documents to the minutes, so this time we are trying the experiment of providing a link where you can access the document instead.

Click the link to view the document:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K6mhTXtr8LdY1x6KlhVkXr70NL6D4tug/view?usp=sharing>

Appendix 3: Water Use and Conservation

Click the link to view the document:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tJPrDPkep-T6ZdkFu_qj7pRBG9Wjv6Ww/view?usp=sharing