

POSH SQUASH STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes: June 03, 2021

This meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom.

Les Grober called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM. In attendance were Barbara Gomes, Bill Mutch, Bruce Carlsen, Bonnie Coffey-Smith, Dennis Pedersen, Glenn Meade, Gretchen Meyer, Harriet Rose, Jeanne Walker, Jeff Blair, Jim Nybakken, Les Grober, Marcia Nybakken, Monique Risch-Meade, Paddy Batchelder, Paul Mundy, Tristan Colson, and Ursula Waskey.

1. Approval of Agenda and Minutes: Tristan

- a. The June 2021 Meeting Agenda was approved.
- b. The May 2020 Steering Committee Minutes were approved as submitted, and will now be uploaded to the website.

2. Chair's Report: Les

- a. Review of action items from last month (highlights only):
 - Marcia is getting lots of photos of the garden – keep them coming.
 - The check for the garden lease has now been cashed.
 - Dianna from power equipment team has fixed the lawnmower.
 - Jeanne found the 24" weedcloth.
 - Grinding wheel placed in sign shed.
 - Jeanne says that we should *not* use straw in the compost, because it may be contaminated with herbicides. Also we should not use any horse manure anywhere in the garden. Use wood chips, leaves, or sawdust.
 - Regarding the plan for saying goodbye to the Alinders: Jackie G has made a photo book to give to them. Tuesday is going to give Mary the sorrel sign, and Dianna will make a new sign the garden.
 - ACTION: No update yet on power tools and how to charge them. Keeping this action item open.
 - ACTION: No update yet on picking rules. Keeping this action item open.
 - ACTION: Jeanne to update document about compost, and Tristan to post to the website.
 - ACTION: Details about order in which to turn on the timers and the watering valves, determined. Tristan to update watering instructions.
- b. The change to using SignUp Genius for Saturday watering signups seems to be successful. Most slots are filled. ACTION: Tristan to send one more email to gardeners listing the open slots and encouraging signups. ACTION: Tristan to print the list and put in the garden shed.
- c. We have settled on the garden policies regarding Covid vaccinations as previously sent to all gardeners (vaccinated people: no masks, unvaccinated: masks when can't social distance, and may not sit at the same table/share food during snack time). There are 3 unvaccinated people in Monday PM; apparently two of them are ok with the policies, and 1 is not. ACTION: Glenn to talk to the latter person about needing to adhere to the policies.

- d. **Managers and Specialists:**
The Power Tools team has two new members Dianna Souverbielle and David Pilati. Whyte Owen may also be interested, but there has been no contact with him yet. The Planting team has two new members: Roberta Boomer and Peter Gifford.
ACTION: Tristan to update the website with new names.
ACTION: Marcia to update the roster on Google Drive.

3. Treasurer's Report/Budget: Marcia

- a. Profit and Loss report is in appendix.
- b. We are still looking for a purchasing person – Dennis may have two candidates, but there are some schedule issues.
ACTION: Dennis to give Marcia the names and work this out.
- c. It was determined that we do not need to publish a Compost Heap at this time – the website will be used for publishing any information instead.
- d. There is a projected remaining balance of \$10K for the end of the year, but the watering team may need some or all of this.

4. Planting Team: Jeanne

- a. Link to full planting team report at end of these minutes.
- b. Jeanne expresses gratitude to everyone for a wonderful garden season so far.
- c. We should not ever use anything containing grass from the golf course, as they use herbicides.
- d. The status of the aphid infested rhubarb experiment:
Four different things were tried: 1. Nothing (control) 2. Organic insecticide made from rhubarb leaves 3. Spraying each leaf with water 4. Thinning out the leaves. All of 2,3,4 showed improvement and the experiment will continue.

5. Water Team: Les & Bruce

- a. It has been determined that there are substantial leaks in the garden irrigation system, about 100 gallons per hour. There are at least 2 leaks on the east side and 1 on the west side.
- b. The watering team is proposing that a helium detection system be used to locate these leaks, and that more isolation valves be added to the system to make this easier. See the links at the end of these minutes.
A motion was made and approved to spend ~\$1K for this test.
- c. An interim watering procedure change was proposed (link at end of these minutes), involving keeping one half of the irrigation turned off completely while watering.
- d. ACTION: Watering team to put in more isolation valves
ACTION: Watering team to procure and use the helium equipment.
ACTION: Watering team to keep garden informed about when this will happen, and how it will impact normal operations in the garden. It is expected to take about a week.

6. Project Team: Jim

- a. Work has begun on rebuilding beds 9 and 11.
- b. Discussion about the bench up near the pear tree, and whether it should be sanded and refinished, or allowed to weather naturally. The decision was to let it weather.

- 7. Work Party / Fundraiser:** Glenn, Monique
- a. There will not be a summer solstice work party, but depending on what happens with the watering system, we may have a work party later on to dig trenches.
 - b. Monique showed some garden t-shirts that she had designed and proposes selling them, via a company called Printful.com, as a fundraiser for the garden. Everyone thought the t-shirts were beautiful, and liked the idea of a fundraiser.
ACTION: Monique to further investigate how to make this happen.
- 8. Appointments:** Les
- a. Power equipment team appointments and planting team appointments discussed earlier.
- 9. Comments/Questions:** All
- a. Thanks to Roy Leon for hauling away the scrap wood with his utility trailer. Thanks to Jim and projects team for cutting up the boards to make them easier to haul away.
 - b. Regarding the long term pile:
ACTION: Day Leaders, tell your gardeners to put the weeds on the *low* side of the pile to keep the pile level.
ACTION: Jeanne to mark with tape to make it easier to understand where to put the weeds.
There is some concern about understanding where the pathway is to access the piles vs the piles themselves.
 - c. The generator is in the sign shed – it is quite small.
 - d. ACTION: Glenn to figure out how to schedule AED demos for this year.
 - e. ACTION: Day Leaders, confirm with your gardeners that there will *not* be a summer solstice work party this year (at least not on 21 June), even though the garden calendar lists it as an event.
- 10. Next Meeting and Adjournment:**
- a. The next meeting will be on Thursday July 1, 2020 at 1:30 pm, via Zoom.
 - b. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 03:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tristan Colson, Secretary

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

Posh Squash Profit and Loss as of 5-31-21 with Approved 2021 Budget

			2020 Actuals Jan - May	2021 Actuals Jan - May	Approved 2021 Budget	Variance under or (over) 2021 Budget	Notes
Ordinary Income/Expense							
	Income						
		Cookbooks/Calendars	0	0	0	0	
		Herbs de Posh	0	170	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	17,770	18,640	870	
Expenses							
	JW	Compost/Dirt	1,793	2,696	3,000	304	
	JW	Cover Crop	0	0	140	140	
	JW	Fertilizer	187	225	350	125	
	JW	Seeds	725	813	825	12	
	RB, DP	Non-seeds (Plants) (taters, garlic, etc)			100	100	
		Total Compost, cover crop, dirt, other	2,705	3,733	4,415	682	
		General Supplies	341	159	900	741	
	LL, BH	Greenhouse Supplies	646	700	1,300	600	
	MN	Lease	1,500	1,500	1,500	0	
	JN	Maintenance, Supplies, Equipment					
		Equipment, repairs & gas	103	150	700	550	Lawn mower, weed whacker
		Hand tools, wheelbarrows	138	150	300	150	Ladder, wheelbarrow, etc.
		Wood, hardware, other	2,280	26	1,800	1,774	
		Total Maintenance, Supplies, Equipment	2,521	327	2,800	2,473	
		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	424	265	1,350	1,085	
		Total Water hardware - irrigation	424	330	1,415	1,085	
	LG, GM	Misc - work parties, photos, website	0	175	175	(0)	New website costs
	Total Expenses		9,235	8,069	18,705	10,636	
	Net Ordinary Income		7,245	9,701	(65)		
	Other Expense						
	Capital Projects						
	AVS, JN	Hoop House	1,170	339	350	11	South end panel
	JW	Raspberry Beds	0	0	0	0	
	JW	Blueberry Beds	0	0	0	0	
		Total Capital Projects	1,170	339	350	11	
	Net Other Income		6,075	9,363	\$ (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 5/31/21		20,937				
	Projected Balance as of 12/31/2021		10,301				

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/1xgNvXx0ZLuXwXKEJTd9WS-xXVGNvpGEo/view?usp=sharing>

Appendix 3: Water Use and Conservation

Link to view new watering procedure to reduce the amount of water lost to leaks:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Oaqw1ABQNZ7mS21yncYAb4v4d0sg5xdU/view?usp=sharing>

Documents about using helium to detect leaks in the garden:

Detector Water Application:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Oaqw1ABQNZ7mS21yncYAb4v4d0sg5xdU/view?usp=sharing>

Helium Gas Detection Cost Estimate:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qOXM0PAOlcaX6yHdCSISXhQWgJSbQQTI/view?usp=sharing>

Helium Gas Detection Technology:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1qOXM0PAOlcaX6yHdCSISXhQWgJSbQQTI/view?usp=sharing>