

Sustainable Renton Board meeting minutes

March 2, 2022 7pm via zoom

In attendance: Lara Randolph, Steve Randolph, Scott Kreidermacher, Kirk Hays, Allison Sheller, Judy Holcomb, David Werner

Motion to approve January minutes by Allison, Kirk 2nd passed

Treasurer's report: CARES funding came through February 16th. Will be reflected in next month's financials. Motion to approve Treasurer's report for January, we will revisit January's report. Kirk moves, Scott amended motion, and 2nd, passed.

Free Grocery Store Report: (Scott) February 2022 FGS Report

Statistics:

1/31 141 cars (including 10 walk-up), 24,000 pounds of food, 54 volunteers, 131 cars from Renton zip codes (93%), 89 from 98056 (63%)

2/7 123 cars (including 14 walk-up), 17,000 pounds of food, 57 volunteers, 115 cars from Renton zip codes (93%), 90 from 98056 (73%)

2/14 118 cars (including 13 walk-up), 18,000 pounds of food, 46 volunteers, 107 cars from Renton zip codes (91%), 75 from 98056 (64%)

2/21 128 cars (including 8 walk-up), 12,000 pounds of food, 50 volunteers, 120 cars from Renton zip codes (94%), 78 from 98056 (65%)

2/28 118 cars (including 8 walk-up), 10,000 pounds of food, 43 volunteers, 115 cars from Renton zip codes (97%), 89 from 98056 (75%)

Notes:

The Redmond CRN pick ups in Duvall continue. Volumes have started to increase.

No change in status with Franz, continue to get product most weeks. They are still smaller in size and frequency due to staff changes and phone issues.

Preston pickups continue on a Monday/Tuesday/Friday/Saturday schedule. There may be larger volumes due to them picking up the Issaquah Trader Joe's through at least February due to Issaquah food pantry temporary closure. We have confirmation that Issaquah food pantry will begin pickups on March 7, meaning the extra Trader Joe's volume will be going away.

We had been collecting at the Issaquah PCC through at least February due to the Issaquah food pantry temporary closure. This will also stop on March 7th.

Manami continues pickups at Uwajimaya on Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays. She has also reached out to and will have intermittent pickups with other downtown Renton businesses.

No "official" change to the potential FLL partnership arrangement.

We continue to receive items by the pallet from FFF (Angel's group). Currently we have a weekly scheduled delivery on Monday afternoons. Would like to discuss making fuel payments to the group for their deliveries. Tip cost is roughly \$25 per Angel.

Northwest Harvest boxes are done for this round. Waiting to hear if/when they will start again.

Combo boxes continue to come in from Albert/Paula's group at the rate of 6-12 pallets a week, with SR keeping 4 pallets and Steve delivering the balance to King of Kings. Boxes have been confirmed through March, with a rumored possibility through May. Steve continues to send invoices (monthly?) for boxes transported/distributed. Has been told payment will come at the end of the contract.

David W. is working on some of the organizational aspects of the FGS. He and Scott have a scheduled biweekly meeting to discuss projects. Currently working on a business plan for FGS and re-establishing relationships with Salvation Army and Eastside Baby.

Respectfully submitted, Scott Kreidermacher 3/2/22

FARM REPORT OF FEBRUARY 2022 (Judy)

Rhys - Scout Sign Kiosk - Request for permission from the church was submitted and will be discussed at the March Church meeting. Board was cc'd on the email and pictures were included.

We should decide on a size for the sign area and if we would like a bulletin board section.

Rhys will start on the design when we get approval.

February 26, Work Party was a success. Besides Ed and me, two other gardeners attended, also a new gardener and his son, Rhys, and a group of 6 young men from Ed's church. The shed & berry areas. The exterior fence area was completed. There are only a few areas at the north end that need bark. Gardener John brought his birthday cake to share with the workers. Paver Corner Plot Markers We did not have enough to put two pavers on all corners. I have included a plot map of the garden. The red number on the lower right corner of each square is how many pavers are presently on that plot. I calculated an additional 39 pavers needed.

I purchased number stencils from Amazon for approximately \$12 and will spray paint the plot numbers on one of the pavers.

Deer are still getting into the garden. We have blocked all holes we could find and put bamboo above the south gate. I found two solid 6 X 6 ft fence panels that we can install in the inside of the SW fence. I would like to run 4 X 4 pallets along the inside and then wire fencing above. Ed has wire he can donate. Need pallets.

Fence Repairs Request help fixing the hinges and closure on the east gate. Two more fence posts need looking at. I would also like the south gates to be raised to be level with surrounding ground.

Pad Lock The padlock key broke in the lock & was replaced. I bought a package of 3 for \$21.60. We will move the wheelbarrows back into the plastic shed and lock it. They take up too much room in the LHS shed

Rental Plots We have 8 plots available and 5 interested gardeners. I will start showing plots as soon as the rain stops.

WHITE TUBE STRUCTURE The bark pile is low, so we will attempt to move the structure to the south side of the green house before requesting another Chip Drop.

Canes & Branches We are putting them on the wagon attached to the tractor & will be burn them before summer.

Purchase Pitchforks We don't have enough pitchforks when we have large groups and it shows down the work. Request we purchase more.

Community Garden Plots a lady has contacted us and would like to take care of the community garden plots.

Requesting No Fee Garden Plots Should I continue to refer all requests to Lara for approval? Approval Requested for garden application and liability form. Sent by separate email.

Paul and Steve walked the garden today (3/2/22) and for \$400.00 Paul estimates that he can fix everything that needs to be fixed at the farm. We will move forward with this plan.

Kirk will look into pavers for the farm.

Vista report (David)

Tried to contact the Salvation Army. No luck yet. Did not get to Eastside Baby. David is working on the website. He is rearranging the website. Was contacted by Goodr, a non profit working towards food security. It is a good networking resource and knowledge base. They may have something to offer, they might not.

David went to a free seed give away last week. David got some seeds to stock up the farm shelves. David will send out an inventory to Judy.

Old business

COVID Policy will be sent out to everyone.

Policy and Procedures need to be created especially for the Free Grocery Store. The leadership team can perhaps take the reins on that project.

Garden Policy has been put in place. The application has been reworked and approved for distribution.

President's Report

CARES money came through

Rotary Club has not responded

Albert states that they will have 320 boxes this week then there will be a hold on boxes. No clarification of what that means exactly. Time will tell. He says that he is finishing billing and we will be paid in March because that is when the contract ended.

David is looking into applying for a SAMS number. Scott has concerns about it.
We sent a letter off to the Mayor of Renton and City Council to appeal to them for a brick and mortar place that the City might have available.
Lara and Steve had a meeting with 501 Commons. They offer a lot of resources for us at a very reasonable cost.
Need to get G-Suite set up for the organization.

New Business

501 Commons suggested that we get together and conduct an organizational assessment.
Lara will reach out to the church to see when we can rent the room at the church and get back to the board
Allison makes a motion to pay the workshop presenters \$150.00 flat fee. Kirk 2nd, passed.
Allison would like to talk about reimbursing Gayle for her deductibles for her Dr. visits.
Discussion about who is to blame and who might be held responsible.
We are going to reach out to David Hackney to ask some questions.
Scott has some information containing Bylaw material. Scott is hoping to get something together by the next Board meeting.
David and Lara will work together to figure out how to best get a monthly newsletter out.
The SAMS number needs to be looked into.
David has some experience with applying for the number. The consensus is that it should not cost anything to apply for the SAMS number. More detail will be looked into.
The idea is to perhaps qualify for some USDA monies.
Questions arose that it would not be worth our money to apply for grants that we would not qualify for.
Scott moves to close the meeting. Kirk 2nd. Passed 8:16pm