

PQB Fruit Tree Project AGM 2024 Minutes, Wednesday Nov 27, 2024

Apologies from Board members Diana Jolly, Howard Abel

10 members present, quorum achieved. In attendance, Lane, Wayne, Sheila, Leslie, Danelle, Chantel, Al, Roz, Gene, Roo, Dan.

Call to Order: Executive Director

Motion to approve 2023 AGM minutes by Lane, seconded by Wayne

Motion to approve agenda by Danelle, seconded by Wayne

Executive Director report: Discussed highlights, 2500 lbs gleaned fruit 1000 units veg grown and shared, 10 people per day visiting and taking food, 1500 seedlings, public piano and art installations, workshops, grants and fundraising, successful events and local partnerships with governments, NPOs, community groups and individuals.

Motion to approve 2024 Financial report by Lane, seconded by Chantel

Business arising

We talked about future priorities in the garden and for food security in the broader community. Thinking about the site plan for the 2 areas in the garden that are still available for planting. Food forest vs raised beds. Expand gleaning operations w/ more effective volunteer co-ordination and a dedicated vehicle. Discussed transportation as a barrier to food security for people trying to get to the food bank and other resources. Discussed a mobile pantry vs a shuttle. Discussed a partnership with Bradley Centre for upcoming LFIF grant. Freeze Driers? Mobile kitchen? Check in with Virginia from Vaudeville for her expertise in freeze driers. Discussed an 'educational' chicken coop. Seed saving and seed library.

Discussed reaching out to farmers at markets for their end of day B-grades, and how to distribute it once we get it. Further develop community fridge and pantry onsite at the Community Garden. Discussed a gardening social enterprise as a fundraiser, offering garden maintenance using "hard to hire" labour. Discussed a co-op food buyers club, which would require a commercial address. Errington Hall offered by Lane. Talked about a spring raffle fundraiser.

Discuss retaining wall work to the lower area by the north side of the building in the space slated for food forest. Discussed a dedicated compost area, preferably outside the fence, if Inclusion will allow it. Discussed the existing Community Pantry, maintained by Gaylene, and directing signage from the garden to there, and vice versa. Discussed workshops and community outreach to attract more guests, gardeners and volunteers. Discussed contacting SD 69's Byron Aires for school / community support in our plan for pergolas over the front tables

Action priorities; booking workshops, meetings and events for next season. Community pantry and fridge. Shelves and organizing in the shed. Looking into a dedicated vehicle with a trailer hitch. Recognizing that with more volunteer help and board involvement, we can achieve more, thanks largely to the capacity for distribution at the Community Garden location

New board members, Wayne Coulbourn and Leslie Forrester.  
And thank you to Chantel Cody for her 4 years of service on the board.

Motion to adjourn by Wayne Coulbourn, seconded by Al Chomica