

Medford Community Garden Commission
Tuesday, July 25, 7-8:30PM

Attendance:
Mimi Gordon
Amanda Bowen
Elise Boerjes
Lisa "Riz" Risley
Fred Laskey

The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

Garden Reports:
No representatives from the Tufts or Winthrop gardens were present.

Amanda reported that the McNally garden is still looking for one gardener and will continue down the waiting list.

Fred noted that Riverbend gardeners are watching plans for the new dog park nearby with interest, assuming that there will be repercussions from the construction for the garden.

He also noted a recent trip to Brooklyn, NY, where he visited several lovely community gardens that had received corporate support.

Riz reported that the summer intern is working well with the kids attending the YMCA program at Willis.

East Medford: We submitted a request to National Grid for permission to use the lot they own on Washington St. They responded with questions about a rental fee and licensing which will have to be addressed with the City. It's possible that we will not be able to persuade them to let us use the space.

Another space east of 93 on Fountain St. was suggested by a Medford resident. It is controlled by the State Department of Transportation and might require a lengthy review process. Commission members also questioned the impact of traffic exhaust on the health of the proposed garden.

Another suggested space at Spring and Myrtle was suggested. We will proceed to determine current ownership.

Fall planning: Amanda reminded the group of upcoming events we should attend:
Mystic River Festival 9/23 12-4
Tufts Community Day 9/24 11-3

Harvest Your Energy Festival 10/4 12-3

Grant opportunities: Joan Cyr from the CPA Committee would like to meet with us to review the application process. To accommodate her schedule we will hold our August meeting on the 15th rather than the 22nd as originally scheduled. Mimi noted that the City Council approved the CPA funding at their July meeting.

Several other granting agencies were mentioned and require additional research including the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund.

Other business: Riz will be attending the American Community Garden conference this weekend and looks forward to reporting back to the group.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.