

Helena Community Gardens (HCG)
Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2023, at 5:30pm
Ruth Linfield's Home

Present: Chris Rudmann (Board Chair); Whitney Bausch (Board Vice Chair); Ruth Linfield (Secretary); Mandy Blohm (Executive Director); Jake Mohrmann; Amie Butler; Les Clark; Absent: Trish Ackart (Treasurer);

1. Board Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2023 approved and seconded.
2. Treasurer's Report not available
3. Executive Director's (ED) Report
 - a. Bingo Night, net of \$186.00
 - b. AERO scholarship submitted with request for new wheelbarrows.
 - c. Garden signups begin 10/20/23, emails will go out with instructions.
 - d. ED will send out email to all gardeners for request for soup dinner donations.
 - i. Bread donations for soup dinner will be supplied by Sunflower Bakery
 - e. Executive Director vacancy applications
 - i. 5 applications received
 - ii. Plan for several Executive Board members to do phone screenings then move the most qualified applicants forward to in-person interviews.
 - iii. A motion was made and approved to pay for the new ED to orient with outgoing ED for up to 30 days.
4. Committee updates
 - a. Fundraising Committee
 - i. Soup Dinner at St. Paul's Cathedral on October 25, 2023
 - ii. Spring Soup Dinner date—Les will check for available dates.
 - b. Events Committee
 - i. Appreciation Dinner for Garden Managers and Board
 1. A motion was made to increase the allotted amount per person to \$20.00. Motion passed.
 - c. Gardens Committee
 - i. Bausch Garden has had limited interest and HCG has had difficulty finding/keeping a Garden Manager. Discussion about the future of this garden ensued. The following plan was put in place:
 1. Put the Bausch Garden to sleep for season 2024
 2. No signups for 2024
 3. ED (Mandy) will contact Gerald at Carroll College to see if they are interested in doing something with this garden in the near future.
 4. Mandy will also email her city contact about HCG Board's plan for this garden.
5. Next meetings

- a. Budget Meeting November 4, 9am-noon, weather permitting to do work afternoon that day at Bausch Garden
- b. Strategy Meeting December 9, 9am-noon, Ruth Linfield Home, 1210 LeGrande Cannon Blvd, Helena
- c. No regular meeting November 16, 2023 d/t special meetings