

## arden Mtg.Minutes from July 10

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### Pelham Community Garden Meeting Minutes, 7-10-20

Present: Cyd Reiman, Wendi Weinberg, Sue Tippett, Abbie Jenks  
Zoom Meeting from 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Minutes from June 23rd read, three corrections were pointed out & corrections were edited into those minutes.

### AGENDA #1

SUE will buy bale/s of chopped straw at Tractor Supply for \$11.99 bale. CYD will send her the town tax I.D. #.

### AGENDA #2 - Water at the Garden Site

The majority of this meeting was to discuss the research and thinking around having a well dug at the Community Garden. The 3/250 gallon water tanks there are adequate when there is rain, but as summers get drier it is not a feasible long term water source. And if a dug well is not possible because water source is not found, then expanding the garden with more plots is not possible.

CYD met yesterday on site from 7:30 a.m. to noon - with Bill Pula (Health Dept.), Buzzy Booth (Mt. Springs Well) and Rick Adamcek (Highway Dept.). Rick brought an excavator and dug three 15 ft. deep holes in the hopes water would be found, and we could have Rick put in a 'Point Well'. No luck, all three holes came up dry...to everyone's surprise. At this meeting Cyd is asking from us: a) Permission to get estimates b) Agreement to attempt another Point Well c) Permission to go forward with making a proposal to CPC.

Any CPA funds allocated for this project would not be taking away from other infrastructure town needs. CPA monies are allocated only for:

- ~ recreation and open space (community garden)
- ~ affordable housing
- ~ historic preservation

Looks like we will need to have a well drilled. Cyd has three leads for such a project and has already been in phone contact with two of them. This is the upcoming sequence of events, as described by Cyd, to request CPA funds for the project:

1. Cyd writes a proposal to the CPC-Community Preservation Committee, requesting the funds (after we get estimates).
2. The committee members decide if the project fills the criteria for receiving CPA money. (Cyd is on the CPC and will need to stand aside throughout their discussion about eligibility due to conflict of interest).
3. The CPC writes a Warrant Article on behalf of the Pelham Community Garden for Fall town mtg. ....if our request for CPA funds is accepted.
4. Wendi (Community Garden secretary & treasurer) writes up some background data and information to present at town meeting.

### NEXT MEETING NEEDS TO BE SOON TO FURTHER DISCUSS the WELL

- 1st choice - Friday July 24th 11:00 a.m. (NEED TO HEAR FROM HEIDI IF THIS WORKS FOR HER)  
2nd choice - Wednesday July 22nd 11:00 a.m.

Minutes by Wendi

Pelham Community Garden Minutes 6/23/20

Present: Wendi Weinberg, Cyd Reiman, Heidi Dollard, Sue Tippett, Abbie Jenks, Dana McDonald (for first 1/2 of meeting)

ZOOM Meeting 5:30-6:15 P.M.

AGENDA ITEM # 1 - LEASH LAW SIGNAGE AT Buffam Falls

The meeting opened with a lengthy conversation involving Dana (chair of Pelham Conservation Commission) about signage at the Buffam Falls Conservation Area. The Garden Committee is requesting that Con Com place another sign on that same post at the parking area about the leash law in Pelham. That area sees between 20-40 people a day, many walking dogs off leash and leaving their little plastic bags around with dog waste in them.

In an effort to direct dog owners to act in a more safe and responsible manner, we would like to see a sign at least alerting walkers of the town leash law. This sign, if it gets made and posted, is the jurisdiction of the Conservation Committee and NOT the Community Garden Committee.

\*\* Dana said he would bring this up at the next Con Com meeting on June 26th, 2020. \*\*

AGENDA ITEM # 2 - WATER at Garden site

We are hoping for a shallow well dug at the garden site.

It's not a long term solution to have the fire dept. fill those water tanks every couple of weeks. They have been very gracious and generous about doing it, so far. Con Com would support a dug well for increased agricultural activities and the pollinator garden. That land is already designated as a Community Agricultural Site.

Board of Health (Bill Pula) needs to OK the site of the well, once that passes, tell Con Com what the well location will be.

CPC monies can be used for a well as it is an infrastructure improvement to the site. This committee gives Cyd the go-ahead to do all the research: get estimates, and find out how deep a well we need to have. This committee unanimously agreed to install a well at the garden site.

AGENDA ITEM # 3 - POLLINATOR Garden Update

Sue weeded the garden - it desperately needs to be watered (we've been in a five week drought). Should we get bales of straw to mulch it? That would help: a) Amherst Farm Supply \$8-\$10 each. b) Cyd will find out cost at Tractor Supply. c) And the farm stand on North East St also has mulch hay.

WENDI will send out an e-mail this week to Sue, Heidi & Abbie so the four of us can take rotating weeks to weed the pollinator garden. We agreed Cyd is exempt from this because she does all the mowing and is researching the Well project. HEIDI will buy four more plants for the pollinator garden at Wing and a Prayer, and plant them.

AGENDA ITEM # 4 - Garden WAIT LIST

There is an overflow list of five people who wanted plots this year who could not get one. Do we want to expand the garden plot numbers?

Heidi suggested that perhaps we disperse the pollinator plants around the land there and re-configure the pollinator garden into more usable plots.

AGENDA ITEM # 5 - RECRUITING new COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We all agreed it's time to recruit new people to this Garden Committee. At some point current committee members need to be able to rotate out. In five years we have worked so well together and brought this project to its current vibrant and beautiful state!

How do we go about recruiting new folks?

Sue's idea: "People can have their garden plots indefinitely if every 3 years they serve on the Garden Committee".

We agreed to focus on this question throughout the winter - How do we get gardeners (or non-gardeners?) to commit to being on this committee?

Minutes By Wendi