

Minutes of Meeting of the Board of Directors
Sunshine Community Gardens
12/1/20

Attendees: Steve Uecker, Kay McMurry, Carole Limaye, Jim Willmann, Kerry Drake, Marsha Riti

A quorum was present.

The meeting was called to order 6:12 p.m.

Jeff/Jen Plant Sale Proposal (Discussion)

Jeff Monks joined the meeting via dial-in to discuss options for selling plants to SCG gardeners in lieu of a plant sale. Jeff and Jen have a basic sale plan and will garner ratio input from Randy and the Board. Jeff plans to touch base with Randy re varieties and will also plant the most popular as shown by the survey. They will try to provide variety. Their greenhouse capacity is 4,000. They plan to plant seeds and see what survives. In February they will know what is available. They could use a website for ordering and have a cash sale at delivery. Right now, they are not concerned about potentially unsold plants. They are planning on same day deliveries with 2 or 3 pick up dates for batch delivery. Jeff and Jen will be onsite to collect the money as people collect plants. The date is flexible since the public is not involved. They may want to deliver earlier than the usual date of the garden sale. The SCG greenhouse would be used for storage, with one or two entrants at a time to collect plants and pay. They would use the greenhouse about a week before delivery days.

Board member question: Should Jeff and Jen make a donation to our All Blind Children Texas?

Since this is a new undertaking, there is concern about the amount of labor hours and up front cost outlay for Jeff and Jen. They may not make enough money to make a donation. Some board members and Jeff suggest not committing to making a donation at this time as this is a new enterprise and there is risk in the outlay.

The Weeder will be the way to alert SCG gardeners to the alternate arrangements for gardeners to order plants. The convenience and access and safety to unusual varieties can be pointed out. Steve says he will write something for the Weeder. Also, information about the upcoming All Gardener Meeting should be published in the Weeder.

2. 2021 Budget – Possible additions

a. Contribution to All Blind Children of Texas (TSBVI-related charity) (**Action**)

Implementation of Sunshine Sponsorship of All Blind Children of Texas.

All Blind Children of Texas (ABCT) is a TSBVI charity which Sunshine donates a portion (\$5,000) of the proceeds from the plant sale. A prior board designated ABCT as a Sunshine sponsored charity.

As part of its sponsorship, Sunshine could include an option for Sunshine members to contribute to ABCT on the annual dues statement. A number of organizations (e.g., State Bar) do this for sponsored charities. To encourage donations, Sunshine could waive the TSBVI hour for the 2021 spring season for donations of \$35 or more. With cancellation of the 2021 plant sale there will be no sale proceeds to donate so this could help offset that loss. However, donation would likely happen even if we had the sale.

Motion: Include an option for Garderners to make a donation to ALL Blind Children of Texas. The donation letter would go out with the plot bill. We can provide a letter for Tax deduction.

Kay Seconded.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Sunshine cell phone for emergency contact (**discussion**)

All the recent lost and found items should Sunshine have a cell phone that gardeners could call in case of an emergency? It would also be the number to call if we have a water break or someone is locked in at night, etc. SCG used to have a cell phone and the President used to field the phone.

After some discussion, the board agreed that email and texting seems to be working for these instances.

3. UT Drama Event at Sunshine Request (**Action**)

Given that we have canceled the plant sale, having a performance at SCG does not seem safe during the pandemic.

Motion: Practical safety measures mean we should not make the garden a host for an outdoor performance with an audience.

Motion is seconded and passes unanimously.

Steve will respond to the request.

--Jim Willmann loses connection and is not on the call.--

4. Plan for next Tuesday's All Gardeners Meeting (**Discussion**)

-Plant sale, nominating committee, charitable donations, general updates etc. Kay can give a plot report, as this is usually of interest to the gardeners.

Meeting adjourned around 7:12 p.m.