

Waterboro Community Garden Committee and Member Meeting

**Wednesday, February 8, 2023 at 1 pm -
Old Town Hall Meeting room (by rec dept)**

Draft Agenda

Introductions/Welcome

A. Approval of November 9, 2022 Minutes

B. Financial Report – Sherry

Financial Update: \$5,565.69 available between the Reconciled Expense/Budget and Revenue accounts

\$2,269.12 Expense Balance

\$3,296.57 Revenue Balance

C. Meeting time question

Sherry has a weekly standing appointment that is in conflict with this meeting. Question whether we could change our meeting time to 3 pm on the same day.

D. Infrastructure –

1. discussion on whether we should replace the weed block fabric on the far-right pathway. It is starting to fray and we could smooth out the ground underneath as we did with the center pathway.
2. discussion on whether the area between the gardens on the left, along the fence, and the fence should be mulched or should we leave it as a grass area. If we decide to mulch that area we could use the old weed block taken from the far-right pathway, if we choose to replace that pathway, and use it under the mulch.

E. Potential new projects

1. Planting of berries or fruit trees in open area outside the pantry garden – See Sue notes at end of this agenda
2. Planting of an evergreen hedge of bushes along the fence along the parking lot entrance side.
3. Discuss possible removal of tree that shades the middle bed.

F. Organizational matters

1. WCG Handbook editing status – There is a Draft from Sandy and Sherry and it will be brought up next month when Sherry as well as Sandy can hopefully be present.
2. Bed rental status - Brigit
3. Other?

G. Other?

From Sue: For the agenda, we should continue the discussion about an establishing a berry garden and if agreed order bushes soon. We should spend money on a project this year and it would fulfill the original goal.

I'd love to see beach plums included. They check all the right boxes for soils (they like sandy Waterboro soil!), deer resistance, pest resistance and butterflies love them! I've

looked at a few online nurseries, and we need to consider pre-ordering now for spring planting. They bloom in May. Fruit in August. Two bushes needed minimum. Fruit in 2-4 years depending on what size we buy. As it takes time, perhaps get the larger plants -- 3 gallon about \$50 each, from a NE grower. There is also NorthEast nursery in Peabody MA <https://www.northeastnursery.com/shop> with smaller plants but no shipping to worry about. Probably others? I don't know if a place like Estabrooks stocks them? Longfellow garden shows them on their site but not to order.

This might be an option for a road trip... <https://hancockcountyswcd.org/shop/>
Their plant sale requires pick up. Ellsworth is 2 hours and 47 minutes but a nice ride! \$6 plants to promote pollinators. 6-12" bare root. Would take 8 years to maturity though. FEDCO is sold out.

Some others

Beach Plum

ediblelandscaping.com

Prunus maritima / Beach Plum

wildridgeplants.com

Raspberries

Blueberries

Others?