

## **Minutes of Incredible Edible Mid-Peninsula 6/30/2021 @ 7 pm at 532 Arlington Rd, Redwood City & by Zoom**

In attendance, in person or by Zoom: Claire Felong, Carol Cross, Steve & Lori Cortez, Fiona Potter, Rachel Reed, Olivia Lee, Brenda & David Hattery, Ann Morrison, Jerry Georgette, Carmen Y.

Hooray! Thursday's Incredible Edible Re-Boot enabled us to prioritize, streamline and re-imagine our impacts in enriching our communities through gardening.

### **COMMUNITY GARDENS.**

Wide-ranging discussion on the intricacies of starting up community gardens: approaches to gardening, varying concerns of governmental & business entities (cities, parks, schools, HetchHetchy/SFWater), liabilities, ongoing dependability of volunteers, cost of water.

- Carol, Claire & Carmen will be reaching out to Redwood City School District about potentially using unused existing gardens and hopefully develop a memorandum of understanding. So far Steve has spoken with one school principal but we'd like to develop a district-wide memo of understanding about uses. Carmen is interested in developing the garden at the previous Adelante/Orion site.
- The Whole Foods Community Garden will be co-managed by Carol and Brenda :)
- We agreed in favor of trying one-to-one garden/gardener matchups which Rachel Reed will coordinate :)
- LATE-BREAKING POST-MEETING NEWS. Heard through the grapevine that due to gentrification in the Fair Oaks are that there may be plots available at St. Francis Center for donation gardening. Contact Claire.
- We will all keep our ears open for other possible community gardens.

### **COMMUNITY ORCHARDS.**

- Steve Cortez will be the liaison for the Community Orchards and we'll try to identify the secret pruner who has been coming through Red Morton (introduce us if you know her/him/they).
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- He also brought some yummy harisa vegetables to eat!
- We noted that while they Red Morton orchard is coordinated through Parks & Rec, the Alameda/Vera orchard is coordinated with Public Works. The city owns approx 37 small parcels, several of which have water for orchards or gardens; ask Claire for the list.

### **SOCIAL MEDIA/MAILLISTS/COMMUNICATIONS**

- If you've given us your email at any point, respond to Rachel when she contacts you about switching to MailChimp. We're working on better integration of social media.
- Rachel, Olivia & Cassie Kitchens will be given administrative rights on various platforms ASAP.
- A couple attendees reported that the Downtown Business group will likely be starting a new Farmer's Market in Courthouse Square which may be more open than Kiwanis to allowing Incredible Edible to set up a booth at the market.

### **SIGNAGE**

Rachel, Claire will coordinate development of signage, graphic arts needs. Let them know if you need something you cannot develop on your own.

## SEED LIBRARY

Fiona from the RWC Library will continue to partner with us for seeds, preparing seed envelopes and events. Olivia & Barb Valley. Fiona offered her skills in information organization.

## GLEANNING/HARVESTING FOR DONATION.

- We discussed gleanng/harvesting for donation but many of those most interested were not able to attend and Claire will convene a separate meeting. Brenda, Meg Gale, Carmen have a strong interest here.
- There are two pieces: fruit tree gleanng (probably with Village Harvest) and raising vegetables for donation in private and/or community gardens.

## REDWOOD CITY GARDEN SHARE

Olivia reports that she and Hamsa are aiming for once a month as their schedules permit. Location may need to change as demolition of VMSC begins. Here is the link for VMSC/YMCA updates <https://www.redwoodcity.org/departments/parks-recreation-and-community-services/current-improvement-projects/community-facilities>

## LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

- Noted that support for community gardens and orchards needs to be communicated regularly to Council Members, Parks & Rec Department and Housing & Human Concerns Committee. As all members to pass on opportunities to communicate with civic leaders.
- Carol already monitors Redwood City Council upcoming agendas and will let us know when items of interest come up

## ADMIN

- We'll streamline our administrative meetings to quarterly and use ad hoc meetings for specific programs.
- There are openings for board positions and an at-large board member. Contact Claire if interested.
- Finances: We currently have \$4,500 in our checking and savings accounts but no current income streams. Past expenses have been: community garden insurance; community garden grants; signage & printing; seeds, trees, irrigation, mulch & supplements for orchards and Whole Foods garden. If you have requests or are interested in developing the new budget, please contact Claire.

A huge thank you to all who attended and those who contacted who could not attend but offered specific support. If I missed anything important in this missive, please respond to this thread.

I'll be in touch in the during week.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claire Felong