

Calapooia Food Alliance/Minutes – January 13, 2010

Present: Steve Brenner, Charity Haworth, Cheryl Haworth, Margy Riggs, Bill Sattler, Kathleen Swayze, Tricia Thompson

Charity moved to approve minutes from December's board meeting. Steve seconded the motion.

Treasurer/Expenditures: Tricia gave the treasurer's report. The balance of \$7,352.05 is larger than last month's because of grant money that was repaid. Tricia noted also that there is \$500.00 in the Selco account.

Community Garden: Margy reported that CLHS has an Americorps volunteer who helps with garden-related activities for students and she requested ideas and opportunities for their involvement. The community garden plots got mostly covered, enough for market productivity.

The Budget Committee (Kathleen, Tricia and Steve) met to discuss new direction so that the gardens will be sustainable. Possible changes for 2010: a). Payment reduction for Site Manager to \$2000/season along with a new job description ; b). Fill available plots at a reduced price of \$20.00 to low-income clients; c). Limit production to needs of community and plant original community garden plot only; d). Have produce from market garden be sold at a community booth if a volunteer (master gardener) can be found to manage a market garden, all profits going to the garden budget; e). Work with Americorps to find student volunteers which Margy is going to research, key to garden sustainability is volunteers; f). Tricia is going to explore stimulus funds to pay low-income people in exchange for help in the garden; g). Use volunteer garden consultants in community garden (master gardeners) with consistent weekly hours to guide/educate new gardeners; h). New garden hoses and/or drip watering systems, no overhead watering is allowed; i). Kathleen to send letter to CFA members apprising them of the current unsustainable situation and encourage volunteer help and/or financial aid for low income clients. Funding to come from Farmers' Market grant money; j). During the season we need a weekly presence in "The Times" with a wish list, volunteer opportunities along with information on workshops and events in the garden.

CFA Business: New job description for community garden site manager was discussed: a). coordinate development and operation of community gardens along with development/enforcement of garden guidelines, provide support for volunteers, gardeners and contractors, coordinate grounds maintenance, oversee monitoring of watering systems, work with and provide data to grant writers; b). Record keeping for volunteer time and in-kind donations; c). Educational duties to recruit and/or provide master gardeners demonstrations along with coordinating teaching programs with schools; d). Coordinate proposed projects and needs with garden manager, liaison and CFA board members along with monthly reports for CFA board meetings; e). Monthly salary for 10-month position reduced to \$200.00 for approximately 20 hours/week along with free garden plot; f). Consistent on-site garden hours.

If JD is not interested due to salary reduction, Anne Stein may be available.

Volunteer opportunities for Board Members were discussed. They are: a). Monitor the water usage with a chart on a weekly basis (1 hour/week); b). Grounds maintenance (mowing, weed-

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eating, trimming walkways, etc. 2 hours/week); c). Mulching with leaves and straw (2 hours/week); d). Liaison to “The Times” (1 hour/week); e). Managing garden plot applications (1 hour/week); f). Maintain financial records for the community garden (1 hour/week); g). Provide information regarding availability of produce from garden to Sharing Hands and Senior Meals program (1 hour/week); h). Planting in spring (2 hours/week); i). Master Gardener as a garden consultant (2 hours/week); j). Harvesting for Farmers’ Market on Saturday mornings during the season (1 hour/week); k). Selling at Farmers’ Market (2 hours/once a month); l). Develop a market garden plot with one or two unusual vegetables (3 hours/week).

Kathleen requested approval for community garden site manager be reduced to \$200.00/month. Steve so moved and Tricia seconded, unanimously approved. Bill suggested that Sharing Hands garden plots be reduced to \$20.00/month with stipulation they volunteer in garden two hours/month. Also, regular plots were reduced to \$40.00/month for general public. Steve so moved and Bill seconded, unanimously approved.

Carla Gerber wants to donate a 1993 F150 truck to the CFA; runs well. Steve spoke with insurance agent regarding liability only at a cost of \$300.00/year. It is still to be determined whether or not grant money will pay for insurance, gas and storage. Steve moved and Bill seconded we receive truck, unanimously approved.

Fundraiser: It was noted that we need to schedule next fundraiser so that it will not conflict with other community events. Kathleen suggested another hoedown with a live caller and instead of live band, use CD’s; coordinate with Marie Dorsey of the Squarenaders. Charity so moved and Steve seconded we have another square dance fundraiser in late February or early March; unanimously approved.

Bill suggested donated seeds be sold at Farmers’ Market or something of that nature that’s food-related as a fundraiser. Bill will develop guidelines for seeds donations.

Next Meeting: Monday, Feb. 15, 2010 at 7 p.m., Council Chambers