

General Meeting - 13 May 2024

Agenda

- Approve March Meeting Minutes
- Roberts Rules of Order
- Add 30 minutes of meet-and-greet to start of meeting
- Garden Chat Room Administration
- Open Hours
- Scaffolding
- Music Day
- Friends of the Garden
- Sharon Moving
- Lanterflies

In Attendance

- Albert Waks (E)
- Gina Healy (E)
- Connor Davis (E)
- Sharon Westra (E)
- Rochelle Pashkin (V)
- Elizabeth Bermudez (V)
- Bartosz Jankowski (V)
- Jas Kaur
- Sasha Slayton

[E: Executive Body, V: Voting Member]

Meeting Commenced @ 6:45 pm

Approve March Meeting Minutes

Proposition: Approve Meeting Minutes without amendments

Vote: Unanimous **Yes**

Roberts Rules of Order

These rules are commonly used by non-profit organizations to facilitate quick and orderly meetings. It's helpful to use one set of rules that can be applied to any organization you participate in. When you hear the terms "make a motion", "adjourn", and "chairman", they are referring to Robert's Rules. To lead us towards more orderly meetings, we adopted Robert's Rules as a special rule of order with some amendments. You are encouraged to read chapter 2-4 in "Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised 3rd In Brief Edition" which should only take 30 minutes. Connor can loan you his copy. Some basic things covered by the rules that will now be enforced are:

- Avoiding using members names in discussion: discuss ideas, not personalities
- Waiting until the chair gives you a turn to speak and make motions
- Alternating between the pro and con side of an argument
- Each member gets one turn to speak until everyone has spoken

Resolved, That the rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of the Society and any special rules of order the Society may adopt.

Resolved, That the chair may participate in debate unless a point of order is made requesting a temporary chair for a particular motion. The chair may also make and second motions.

Resolved, That a member may seek the floor by raising their hand or simply making eye contact with the chair. The chair must still give the floor by saying the member's name, nodding at, or gesturing towards the member. A member is not required to stand when they have the floor.

Resolved, That our established order of business adheres to:

1. Introduction of new potential members
2. Reading and approval of minutes
3. Approval of the current agenda
4. Reports of officers and standing committees
5. Special Orders
6. Unfinished Business and General Orders
7. Approval of probationary members
8. New Business

Vote: Four **Yes**, One **No**

Result: **Passes**

Add 30 minutes of meet-and-greet to start of meeting

We have been able to get a quorum at all of the meetings we have held since changing the meeting time. People often show up late. We can advertise the meeting time as 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm to give us 30 minutes of extra space at the beginning of the meeting to talk with new members. The meeting will still start at 6:30 pm, so it is optional to arrive at 6:00pm.

Proposition: Add 30 minutes to the start of the meeting for an optional meet-and-greet

Vote: Unanimous **Yes**

Garden Chat Room Administration

We use the app Element for communicating between members on a day-to-day basis. Recently the General room was converted to an Announcements room where any member can post a single message to all gardeners. Connor will copy your message exactly if he believes the message is applicable to the entire garden.

Open Hours

We require signing up for scheduled open hours in advance. We ask that you sign up for at least **two hours**, during which you can personally guarantee the garden will be open. This allows us to post times online when volunteers from the neighborhood can come in to earn their hours. We post that we will be open from 12-6 pm on the weekends, but it's still nice to open the garden during the week if that's all you are available.

You can find openings at <https://11th.garden/calendar>. Send an email to team@11th.garden to list your times.

Scaffolding Update

The scaffolding is estimated to be removed by the first week of June. We don't know much more than this.

Music Day

We need to clean up the garden before our next event. We will have to deal with the scaffolding and have the music in the back. Open Garden Day NYC is June 1st and 2nd this year where all the gardens in the city should be open. We want to participate in this.

Proposition: Hold a live music event June 1st from 2-6pm

Vote: Unanimous **Yes**

Friends of the Garden

Within our bylaws, there are “friends of the garden” which are people who can be acknowledged by the garden, without a desire of becoming a member. We have been adding more people to a garden group chat centered around volunteering.

Sharon Moving to Florida

Sharon moving to Tampa at the end of the month. Evan Young and Sasha Slayton will be the point of contacts at Hope Church for use of facilities during meetings or events. Sharon will be resigning from her position of Membership Committee Head and turning in her garden key.

Proposition: Following her resignation, Sharon will become a Friend of the Garden.

Vote: Unanimous **Yes**

Lanternflies

These invasive bugs kill our grapes and roses and should be exterminated regularly every time you visit the garden. You should use the spray bottle with red top which contains “lantern fly killer” (nothing more than vinegar and soap).

Meeting adjourned @ 7:30 pm