

Healthy Franklin County - Community Garden Work Group
February 14, 2018

Present: Josh Mosely (Network Ministries), Kari Coleman (Manito), Barb Houpt (Chambersburg YMCA), Chris Mayer (Wilson College), Danelle Wagner (Shippensburg Community Resource Coalition), Crystal Griffin (SCRC), Trey Gelbach (Waynesboro Area Human Services), Marina Hertzog (Summit Health Intern), Nickie Fickel (Summit Health), Noel Purdy (Healthy Franklin County)

The group reviewed the December 2017 minutes.

Network Ministries Community Garden Expansion:

Josh reported that he believes Networks Ministries can cover the cost of supplies for the beds (lumber and screws). He has two individuals who have equipment to help prep the land; another strategy to prep the land could be organizing a work day with a variety of volunteers to come in and shovel surface up. He will reach out to the two individual first. Noel reported the Dave Perry from FCCTC is interested in helping; he believes the students could help build the beds. Josh suggested another way to integrate the students would be to have them create a couple of plans/designs for the project, including a plumbing concept however this kind of project requires significant lead time to integrate into the curriculum. Noel and Josh will meet with Dave to further discuss options on how to incorporate the kids.

Community Garden Workshops at Network Ministries

Barb, Josh, Marina and Noel met in January to draft a workshop concept; Barb and Josh have been communicating with the Master Gardens to firm up details and dates. Josh will follow up with the Master Gardeners in the next couple of weeks. Noel drafted a mock up flyer; it's likely at this point the workshop series won't kick off until April. The FCHA will assist with outreach and promotions. The workshops will be open to the entire community but a concerted effort will be made to target residents in the FCHA and those who have inquired about a community garden at Network.

FCHA Community Garden Survey -Waynesboro

Marina reported that she and Noel met with the property manager, Amela Anderson, at FCHA in Waynesboro and she fully supports our efforts to conduct a survey. Amela connected us with a resident who is interested in helping to conduct the survey. Kari, who conducted the surveys in the Chambersburg HA, said the most effective method is to knock on doors and do the survey in person, on the spot. Tray offered to help find volunteers through WAHS to assist; the work must be done Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm. Noel will send a follow up email to Tray and Marina regarding volunteer expectations. There are 120 units total between Elder and Hawbecker neighborhoods. The timeline would be end of February early March.

Community Garden Toolkit/Resources Guide

There was a discussion about creating a local resource guide and toolkit—with current information—to distribute to those interested in starting a community garden. Tray suggested the Association of Community Gardens and the Missouri Extension Office. Marina will work on a resource guide/toolkit—to include local resources for supplies, technical assistance, etc. (Franklin Pet Hardware, Martin's Excavating (dirt/compost), R.A. Hill, Wilson College Fulton Farm (horse manure), GISH Logging, Snaveley's Garden Corner, Harry Rotz (compost), Dream Farms (compost), Martins Produce,

General Updates

Tray shared his experience as a Master Gardner and his involvement with the community gardens at Church of the Apostles in Waynesboro. Tray offered some suggestions and also offered to share program materials such as contract information for community garden participants (Tray will email). The contact for the Johnson Control's service outreach named, "Blue Sky Involved" (Cool Name!) is Scott Sutton and contact no. is 717-729-4622

Chris Mayer reported that Trinity Lutheran Church on the corner of Hazel and Philadelphia is creating a community garden; Mary Jo Frey is the contact. They could benefit from the upcoming workshop series.

Comcast Cares and Lowe's are possible sources of funding/support for community projects.

The next regular meeting is on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.