

# GREENHOUSE FLOWER BASKET MINUTES JUNE 26, 2009

Meeting began at 12:05 PM

In Attendance: Joe Mc Carthy  
Mark Loppiccolo  
Janette Bloom  
Ralph Marrone  
JoAnne Skelly  
Kathy Halbardier  
Jennifer Pruitt  
Mark O'Farrell  
Karen Abowd

## 1) Flower Basket update:

- Thank you's were extended to all the volunteers that made this project possible
- Karen reported that there were 91 baskets up and Ralph stated that Mike Hylans missed watering one basket for 2 days so that basket was being replanted by Greenhouse Garden Center.
- Karen reported the earnings to date through sponsorships and the business seminar were \$15,203.00 This was made possible through the efforts of the Carson City Downtown Consortium. Additional sponsorship opportunities available including in-memoriam baskets. 9 locations on Carson St left and 20 on Curry St available. Additional monies needed to defray watering and gas for golf cart as well as fertilizer cost for flowers.
- Karen asked Ralph who waters the baskets 3 days /week to make any comments. Ralph suggested that for next year we explore other flower varieties. Petunias require deadheading which takes time. Verbena and Vinca doing fine. Sweet potato vines were struggling. Karen commented that Super Cascading Petunias were what was recommended by master gardeners & two nurseries including Moana Nursery who plants the Summit Sierra baskets. Ralph that we should just explore different Petunia varieties as well as different fertilizers. Mike Hylans who waters the baskets 4 days /week was not at the meeting for comments.

## 2)Greenhouse Project:

-Kathy Halbardier of the NV Small Business Development Center presented a power point presentation on the 3 options for location for the greenhouse with pros and cons of each site given. Site 1...Carson Tahoe Hospital

-7 different locations with only one having 1 acre of land

### PRO's:

- no special use permit required
- adequate infrastructure, water and power available
- great visibility especially from the freeway
- interface of wellness and growing healthy food
- accessibility
- mixed uses allowed
- expansion opportunities

### CON'S:

- commercial and residential development not complete
- in the event the hospital is ever sold the longevity of the program in this location is not secure
- security for the greenhouse operation would be at our expense. CTH is an open campus.
- future of CTH not known
- excess land could be parceled off and sold
- negotiations can take time
- infrastructure costs unknown
- Janette Bloom pointed out in her grant availability

research that grants stipulate that the greenhouse not be located on private land only public land and the hospital is privately owned.

Site 2...Boys and Girls Club (at new facility)

**PRO'S:**

-this is one of the groups our program would interface with for the educational aspect of the greenhouse project

-Grant funds are available through WE Can for kids under the age of 13

-accessibility

-future CC JAC bus stop site

-close proximity to residential areas we would be trying to help

**CON'S:**

-lack of funds puts the opening of the BGC in delay mode and our project is looking to January 2010 as an in progress date if not completion date (site still not ready for occupancy)

-not enough land for expansion; less than an acre available

-special use permit required

-water and power an issue and a significant cost

-site visibility; southwest corner of property more hidden

-open campus; security at our expense

-portion of the site currently for sale

-negotiations can take time

-long term use questionable

Site 3...Eagle Valley Middle School (corner of 5th St and Carson River Rd)

**PRO'S:**

-with a private business partner (which interest has been expressed) QZAB financing is available through the School District partnership

-infrastructure water and power are included, will just tap into existing infrastructure of EVMS proposed new "green" project

project

-plenty of area for expansion for additional alternative revenue producing uses ie. meeting areas/outdoor classes

-EVMS will provide all the security lighting and fencing at no cost to us

-We can be included in the trumpeting water circulation system for heat in the winter and cool in the summer which will offset our need for circulating air and evaporative cooling and save a small fortune in electricity. Utilizing the EVMS wind turbines makes our greenhouse "green" and qualifies us for NV Energy grants.

-huge educational component-the school district would like to have CTE and after school work study as opportunities for all students. Compliments plan to interface w/ Special Ed OJT to man the greenhouse and these employees can be paid with School District funding

-great visibility, accessibility; location heavily traveled

and JAC bus stop to be added

-the school district is ready to get started in this project NOW

-the forward thinking synergy of the Greenhouse Project and the Educational System reaching out to the community-afirst for Carson City and the state of Nevada

**CON'S:**

-special use permit required

-need to meet with residents/HOA and talk with State Lands and BLM who own the two lots across the road

-negotiations can take time

-Vote was taken on first, second and third choices for site location of the greenhouse. Vote was unanimous for EVMS as the first choice site. 6 votes of 9 went to the Boys and Girls Club for a second choice site and 9 votes for third choice site of CTH. Choices 2 and 3 could be options for future expansion and demonstration of one of the methods of gardening.

-Janette Bloom gave a report on funding options, the Environmental Protection Agency being the largest funding source at \$25,000. This grant app is due in December. Janette said that Dennis Helwinkle of Nevada Agriculture was very interested in this project. Some funds available ranging from \$500-\$2,500 with an app deadline of July 30.

Mark O'Farrell said that Douglas High got an educational grant for their greenhouse which Karen stated we are eligible for but need our 10% partnership match. Joe stated we needed to start documenting volunteer hours for in-kind grant matches. Karen said she would give Kathy attendance records of all the meetings as well as documentation of her volunteer hours.

3)Next meeting planned for Friday July 24 @ noon @ CC Library

4)Meeting adjourned at 1:00 PM