

**Greenhouse/Basket Meeting Minutes**  
**April 17, 2009**

In Attendance: Ann and Joe McCarthy  
Ralph and Linda Marrone  
Scott Fahrenbruch  
Janette Bloom  
Kathy Halbardie  
Karen Abowd

Meeting began @ 12:15 PM

1) Karen Abowd reported on the progress of the Flower Basket Program. Baskets and brackets were ordered from Hooks and Lattice on 4/15/09 and would be shipped to the Parks and Rec yard by 5/11/09. Joe Mc Carthy used his personal credit card for the deposit. His generosity and the balance would be repaid through the CCBC basket sponsorship program @ \$250/basket or 2 for \$450. Details and forms for the sponsorship were outlined and noted to be available on downtownanswers.com. A seminar on customer service hosted by the Nugget and the CC Library and the CCBC would be the second source of funding for the baskets. 300 tickets would be available for the notable speaker for this event. Linda Marrone volunteered to help Karen with seeking sponsors. 60 baskets were ordered and some of the green pots from last year would be used as well for Curry St.

-Shipping for the baskets would be to 3303 Butti Way Bldg 9 and Ralph Marrone and Jim Phalan volunteered to get the baskets to Dale Hildebrand and the Reno greenhouse for the master gardener planting in the third week of May.

-Dale who could not attend this meeting confirmed the availability of the Reno greenhouse for planting and holding of baskets until the hanging in CC downtown. By email to Karen she also confirmed the master gardeners participation in the basket planting.

-Karen stated that after meeting with David at Greenhouse Garden Center the plant material would consist of Super Cascading Petunias in terra cotta, pink, vanilla, lt purple/ Red Geraniums @ 12" ht/ mix among the baskets of Sweet Potato, Vinva and Homestead Purple Verbena.

-Scott Fahrenbruch will advise Tammy and Karen of basket hanging dates so they can guide the hanging on the black downtown poles. Scott said they would begin the hanging on June 1, 2009. Ralph volunteered to help as well.

2)Karen reported briefly on the greenhouse business plan meeting of 3/31/09 where Kathy Halbardier, Janette Bloom, Karen Abowd, Joe McCarthy and Tammy Westergard were in attendance. She explained that Kathy of the NV Small Business Development Center @ UNR would be helping write the business plan for the greenhouse and that

Kathy among other things gave the directive that location for the greenhouse was of primary importance for funding options. Karen would explore site offers and include Jennifer Pruitt and Kathy in a site field trip. Kathy could generate a power point presentation on the sites where in an open meeting pros and cons of sites could be considered. Kathy could also determine grants and other potential funding available per site. Future project expansion potentials and methods of growing were touched on as well as thoughts on a Board for the project. Janette with her legal background volunteered to look into LLV vs private corp issues. Sites being considered are Carson Tahoe Hospital, Boys and Girls Club, Gleason School and Stewart. Karen reported that for Gleason she needed a different contact which Scott provided and Karen also said that Terry Sullivan, Sargeant @ Arms for the legislature, wrote a letter to the Governor regarding reconsideration of the Stewart site.

-Karen reported that the site review meeting with Jennifer and Kathy took place on 4/9/09 and that Jennifer had gotten back and said that we did not need a special use permit for the hospital sites but would need one for the Boys and Girls Club site.

-Kathy Halbardier reported on where we are now and further explained the process. She briefly explained the 3 growing methods:

- traditional
- Japanese
- hydroponic

She explained that even though we had thought of ruling out hydroponic from an educational component and a quick turn around of product it should not be ruled out. She explained sites will take into consideration business options, transportation, water, power, education, commercial traffic, access to retail. She stated she will explore "for-profit" as well as "not-for-profit" business models. Joe pointed out that in any case we would need to be self-sustaining. Kathy highlighted that we need to look at what we can get on board fast and first and then expand to the other options for growing. Linda and Ralph said they did not think we should grow to make money. Kathy stated that it develops entrepreneurial skills from an educational standpoint and gave the analogy that 4H sells what they raise and put it back into the program and we would be doing the same thing to fund our food for the in-need programs. Joe emphasized we do not want to be perceived as competing with farmers for sale of product and Kathy reiterated that we would not be. Janette suggested for grant proposals we emphasize "food security" and look at Homeland Security for grants. Joe suggested getting Rob Hooper and his wife to talk to the group about the Japanese gardening method.

3) Meeting schedule established for the rest of the year for Friday noon meetings @ the CC Library: May 22, June 26, July 24, Aug 28, Sept 11, Oct 9, Nov 6

Meeting adjourned @ 1:00