



Meeting: GGSG
Meeting Date 1/15/13
Agenda Item: #8a

Mission Statement
Delivering quality services in a courteous,
cost-effective and efficient manner.

GO GREEN SAVE GREEN MEETING STAFF REPORT

REPORT TO: Go Green Save Green Task Force
REPORT FROM: Chris Clark, Superintendent of Parks, Forestry and Golf
AGENDA ITEM: End-of-season Community Garden report

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 2010, the Go Green Save Green Task Force sponsored the development of 16 community garden plots at Lehner Park. The gardening season begins in mid-May, and gardeners are responsible for cleaning out their plots by the end of October. The cost is \$20 per plot per season.

Until this year, gardeners were allowed to rent multiple plots. However, in 2011 we had a waiting list of roughly seven people. This year, gardeners were limited to one plot, and the waiting list shrunk to three people.

This year also was the first year of the water source at the garden. All gardeners could access a push-button tap on the outside of the building for no additional cost. Those who wished to access the on/off switch for the hose spigot could pay a \$5 key fee to access the building. Only one gardener paid the additional fee for the hose service.

At the end of each season, all gardeners are mailed a survey to gather their feedback. Eight people responded, and their surveys are attached.

SUMMARY OF 2012 GARDENING SEASON

This season the Parks Department added a water source at the park building for garden users. This is a combination of an exterior timed push button bucket fill spigot as well as an interior accessed garden hose connection. From our perspective, it appears that the exterior bucket filling option was utilized the most and was a welcome addition to the gardens. A total of approximately 7,275 gallons of water was used at an estimated cost of \$40.

This season we were also informed of gardens getting vandalized. Because of concerns from some users, we have plans to increase park security measures at Lehner Park through signage and surveillance. We have also received a request from the Corps of Engineers to add four additional garden plots that will be specifically allocated to residents in the Roland Lane apartments.

In response to some of the concerns listed in the garden surveys:

- At this point we do not plan to add any compost next season. Last year's product was not a very good product thus resulting in the complaints. We could provide on an "as requested" basis.
- It would be up to the task force to recommend – and for administration to approve – the addition of more garden plots. There has been some discussion amongst staff about the potential to add plots in the village-owned property directly across from Village Hall on Glendale Avenue. However, this would require some infrastructure improvements to the site (grading, water access,

and parking). Another site that could be considered is the village-owned farm field near Fire Station #2. This may be an appealing option for residents in the western half of the village.

ATTACHED INFORMATION

- I. 2012 Community Garden end-of-season survey

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation



Bruce R Steiner
801 Meadowbrook Dr
Green Bay, WI 54313-6973

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

yes.

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

yes - Try 2nd yr ① grow less corn
② watch for Jap Beetles

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience?

Have a central watering Tank, its a long walk with buckets to water my plot (#7)

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

The compost used last spring was not very easy to work with, lots of sticks and boards in compost.

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

Yes. I've met new neighbors and got more comfortable in who lives around me.

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

Yes. This a great place to see your neighbors.

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience?

no. Thank you for the water. This was very helpful.

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

JIM JOHNSON 434-2846

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience

provided by the Village of Howard? Explain. YES! A GARDEN IS

SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE OF IT'S GARDENER, THE VILLAGE CAN HELP, BUT EACH GARDENER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN GARDEN, IT IS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain. YES!

ALMOST EVERYTHING I HAVE PLANTED IN 3 SEASONS HAS GROWN WELL, SOME EFFORT IS REQUIRED FOR WEEDING AND WATERING, BY MAKING WATER AVAILABLE WAS FANTASTIC! THANK YOU!

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden

experience? DON'T PUT ANYTHING BUT COMPOSTED

"COMPOST" ON THE GARDEN, THIS YEAR SOME GARDENS HAD A CUBIC YARD OF BIG STICKS PUT INTO THE GARDEN, NOT GOOD! SPRAY THE PHRAGMITES BETWEEN 41 AND THE GARDEN, IT IS A HOME FOR VARMINTS THAT FEED ON VEGETABLES.

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the

program. IT IS WONDERFUL THAT THE VILLAGE

MAKES AN EFFORT TO HAVE A COMMUNITY GARDEN, LAST SUMMER THERE WERE 4 MAMMALS THAT FED ON OUR GARDENS: DEER, WOODCHUCK, RABBIT, AND RACCOON. IT WOULD BE NICE TO HAVE THE ADJOINING WOODLOT A LITTLE LESS INVITING FOR WILDLIFE. HOW? I DON'T KNOW!

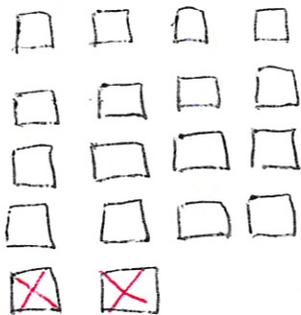
YOU COULD HAVE POSSIBLY TWO MORE GARDENS AT LEHNER PARK.
(OVER)

W.

Hwy 41

CREEK

PLAYGROUND



NEW GARDENS?



Home

Home

VILLAGE STREET

E.

N.

S.

MORE GARDENS WOULD BE NICE FOR THE VILLAGE

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

No. The mulch the village used was terrible. It was full of large wood chunks and terrible to work with. The promised water supply was 3 weeks late and we had to haul several hundreds gallons of water.

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

No. We had poor mulch, no water, excessive rabbit + woodchuck damage to our garden plot. Poor harvest as a result. We spent \$120 to fence our plot in after serious rodent damages.

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience?

Better water supply and mulch. Who wants sticks + wood chunks as mulch? Also need to control rabbits + woodchucks. It's cheaper to buy from farmer's markets than to grow in the poor plots.

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

The letter sent ~~was~~ addressed to a Zong Xiong. We are not the Xiong's.

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

yes, a good size space and everyone was very friendly

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

yes, I harvested a lot of vegetables, and it was nice to have a relaxing hobby.

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience?

Water near the street or times we could bring hoses to water; carrying jugs every day was very time consuming, especially during the hot times.

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

Be sure the water works or improve the system to have it accessible closer to the road or at times to use our own hose. I would pay extra for the opportunity.

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

yes. nice plot size and having the water accessible was very convenient!

It's a huge hassle for me to try to bring water.

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

yes. the location is great and not too far from where I live and the other gardeners are friendly or keep to themselves.

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience? Do not use mulch.

Do not use mulch.

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

The only thing that I was very un-happy about was the mulch. I had to rake a lot of it to the side and I found plastic, wires, and other stuff in it. I did not have all of the dirt needed to cover the seeds when planted and half of my plants did not grow. The ones that

I started growing ahead of time made it
though. Over all I enjoyed the
~~area~~ area and being able to garden.

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

It was a hot dry summer and until the water was turned on full time (after water break) It was hard for the gardens to survive

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

No, Not able to properly care for the garden,

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience?

Don't know how to do it, but gardens had things taken from them from non-owners

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

When this is material put on the garden. At least make it clean fill

Summer 2012 Gardener Evaluation

1. Overall, were you satisfied with the Community Garden experience provided by the Village of Howard? Explain.

yes! Veggies seem to do quite well.

2. Do you plan to garden at Lehner Park again next year? Explain.

yes. I am learning what vegetables to plant.

3. Do you have any suggestions for improving the Community Garden experience?

Make more garden plots available. There is room on the south end for more gardens.

4. Please share any other comments that you might have about the program.

How is reconstruction of Highway 41 going to affect the gardens? You don't have to respond to this.