

**EBMUD/LAC subcommittee Education & Outreach
Regular meeting 11-14-2016**

Attendees:

Bobbi Feyerabend

Saxon Holt

Sundong Kwong

Georgia Madden

Michael Thilgen

Alisa Rose Seidlitz

Kristin Bowman

1. Demonstration Gardens project

Georgia gave an update on the site work that was done at the Richmond Demonstration Garden on October 10. Bobbi, Katie, Sundong, Marie and Georgia worked on plant lists for the individual sections of the garden. Kristin compiled the lists and create a site improvement plan for the City of Richmond staff so they can make the plant purchases for the phase two planting.

The small group that worked at the garden will continue to help with the garden renovation process. Their next project will be to develop designs for the renovation of the large lawn area adjacent to Macdonald Ave.

2. "Demonstration Garden Project" proposal format project

The group spent most of the rest of the meeting discussing the proposal/grant process and many questions were generated that need clarification. Some of the questions were:

a. What are acceptable criteria for grant awards?

b. Can the program include renewable grants? Currently, EBMUD reviews projects 5 years after the initial grant was awarded. The group thought that projects should have follow up much sooner than that time frame due to the typical high turnover of volunteers in non-profit organizations. The group also thought that 2-3 years was a more appropriate time span for project follow up. Kristin recommended that groups of projects could be cycled through initial grant periods and follow up time periods in order to keep the committee coordination time at a reasonable level.

c. What type of funding is available currently? Kristin informed the group that new grants have a current cap of \$15,000 and "improvement" grants have a cap of \$5,000.

The group decided that it would be more productive to concentrate on fewer demonstration garden projects and make a more intense effort to bring those projects to completion.

We did not have time to discuss possible involvement with the CUWCC Wiki garden pages project or the creation of a plant list for the EBMUD website and nursery partnerships. Those topics will have to be added to a future agenda. The meeting adjourned to attend the general LAC meeting.