
Attendees:

Georgia Madden
Bobbi Feyerabend
Stew Winchester
Kristin Bowman
Katie Creighton
Ryan Minahan

EBMUD “Refresher” Garden Grants

- I. The sub-committee reviews and suggests improvements to the maintenance guidelines and agreement included in the original EBMUD “Community WaterSmart Garden Grant Program.”
 - A. Additions and improvements to maintenance agreement
 1. Water collection component addition to “Efficient Water Use” category
 2. Addition of a general seasonal maintenance schedule, to be used as a 5-year general maintenance plan
 3. Bay-friendly principles will be adapted and used to enhance wording of each category on maintenance agreement
- II. The sub-committee discusses how the maintenance requirements of the Refresher grant will be monitored
 - A. Who will be responsible for monitoring?
 1. EOC decides that having a landscape professional perform maintenance check-ups would be most effective
 - a) The responsibility cannot only fall on EBMUD employees with no landscape training
 - b) Members of EOC will likely perform some maintenance check-ups at the gardens that receive a Refresher grant
 - B. Frequency
 1. Two in-person site visits per year, over five years
 2. Other check-ins by phone or email.
- III. The EOC discusses other areas (besides maintenance agreement) of Refresher grant program that will ensure each garden is maintained properly
 - A. The application
 1. Each garden must submit their annual budget in order to receive Refresher grant
 - B. Post-award maintenance packet
 1. Packet will include more detailed maintenance guidelines (e.g. a composting guide)
- IV. EOC discusses ways to direct visitors to EBMUD Refresher grant gardens
 - A. A possible page on EBMUD website describing each garden with descriptive differences (e.g. bioswale or rain garden)

1. Include links and visitor comments as well
- V. Georgia Madden informs the EOC that she will be stepping down from her position as committee chairwoman
- VI. Georgia and Katie will be writing an article for the APLD-Northern California chapter about the projects that the EBMUD Landscape Advisory Committee and sub-committees are working on.

1. Review of application by EOC
 2. Approval from EBMUD
 3. Coordination of site visits during installation
 4. Post-installation site visits to confirm continued maintenance agreement happening
- A. A current list of gardens nominated for a Refresher grant will be submitted as a separate page with the proposal.
 - B. Budget line will be removed as it is not within EOC's responsibilities.
 - C. Categories shall be ordered to follow application/installation/maintenance process.

VII. The EOC reviews and suggests corrections to the latest draft of the Refresher grant **application**.

VIII. Kristin is able to clarify budgetary questions:

- A. The upper limit of the current Garden Grant program is \$15,000 - a renewal would have to be less
- B. EOC decides on \$10,000 as an upper limit for a Refresher Grant
- C. A garden is only eligible for a Refresher Grant five years after being awarded original Garden Grant.
 - 1. A Refresher Grant is only part of a larger solution
 - 2. The current Garden Grant requires matching funds
 - a) Matching funds requirements will carry over for Refresher Grants (this should be added to Refresher Grant description)
 - b) Matching funds can be "in kind" - including labor hours
- A. EOC will need to produce text for an informational page about the Refresher Grants to include eligibility requirements, as well as the application.
- B. Kristin will reformat once all revisions have been made.

IX. EOC reviews current list of gardens to recommend (5) for Refresher Grant:

- A. Garden at Heather Farms (Bobbi & Sundong)
- B. Lakeside Park - Mediterranean (Kristin)
- C. Richmond Garden (Kristin)
- D. Richmond Greenway Habitat Garden (Kristin)
- E. Lindsay Wildlife Garden (Stew)
- I. EOC discusses signage for Grant gardens & including website for more information.
- II. EBMUD will be holding a photo contest for successful lawn removal rebate landscape conversions

III. CUWCC List Suggestions

- I. EOC Garden point persons are to get data for CUWCC form to submit to Lisa Ceullar, as well as permission from Garden to submit to list.
- II. EOC adjourns to attend EBMUD LAC meeting