

# Maple Community Garden: Spring 2024 AGM Minutes

Saturday, February 24 from 10am to noon  
Online

## A. CALL TO ORDER at 10:00 am by Malachi

Quorum of 15 established as per Motion approved in May 1996. 37 members in attendance.

## B. AGENDA

Proposed:

- Approval of Fall 2023 AGM Minutes
- Reports
- Regular Business
- Other Business
- Adjournment

No requested additions to the agenda.

## C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES of previous Annual General Meeting on September 24, 2023.

### Any Errors or Omissions?

- Beth Allen should be added to the list of work party leads.

**Moved:** Rene Appelmans

**Seconded:** Diane Holowachuk

## D. REPORTS

### a) Executive Chair – Malachi

- Reminded gardeners of their obligations regarding membership and updated that there was one termination of membership.
- Executive is looking into the cost of a professional tradesperson to do the water line replacement. Members expressed agreement about looking into this.
- Joyce asked whether the City would undertake this work or provide some of the funding for the waterline replacement. Executive's understanding is that they will not because Maple Garden owns the lot.

### b) Vice Chair – Gaetan

- No major updates; looking forward to gardening with you all this season. Reminder to follow contractual obligations and basic requirements.

### c) Finance Chair – Laura

- Copy of the finance report was sent out with the AGM package.
- Overview of 2023 financial statement:

- Total income was \$1631, which was \$109 more than budgeted.
- Largest costs for the year were insurance and web servicing.
- Garden has \$4940 of savings that has accumulated over the past few years.
- Overview of 2024 Budget:
  - Overall the budget is similar to last year.
  - Expecting about \$1500 to come in from memberships.
  - Proposing to move \$890 to reserve to continue to save for water management.
  - Carolyn suggested using surplus funds to buy a bulk purchase of compost. Cynthia recommended the organic compost that Vandusen uses; noted that it comes in a big plastic container. Krista spoke to previous bulk compost that she has ordered; noted that quality varies.
  - Question regarding water issue. Malachi provided an overview of potential future water line issues.
  - Malachi mentioned we may look into using some of the budget on the email system, given the issues with the current server (Roundcube).

d) Membership Chair – Kathleen

- Thanks to everyone for their efforts to make the garden such an enjoyable place.
- Updates:
  - Children’s garden will be moved to a more accessible location.
  - Waitlist process is being updated so that we are re-confirming who is on the waitlist annually.
- New members:
  - 2 new members joined the garden this past year.
  - There are some openings for this year: one from a sabbatical, another from termination of membership.
- The work party list will be posted in the board at the garden.
- We will be posting more updates on the garden website; Carolyn has volunteered as website coordinator, but should have one other person.
- Please use [treasurer@maplecommunitygarden.ca](mailto:treasurer@maplecommunitygarden.ca) for e-transfers.
- Aside from after the AGM, the first work party (March 10th) is the alternate to submit the membership form and fees in-person. The other option is to do everything online.

**MOTION 1: *To accept the Finance Report from January to December 2023.***

**Moved:** Mothe Tilden

**Seconded:** Beth Allen

**MOTION 2: *To accept the 2024 Budget as proposed, with a projected surplus of \$550.***

**Moved:** Rene Appelmans

**Seconded:** Diane Holowachuk

**MOTION 3: *To move the 2023 operating surplus of \$890.66 to Maple Community Garden reserve account, to be available in case of emergency expenditure needs (e.g. water system replacement) .***

**Moved:** Rene Appelmans

**Seconded:** David Fink

## E. REGULAR BUSINESS

1. **Assignment/Recruitment of Section Leads** – One member from each section to oversee their section. The lead is critical to the effective functioning of the garden community.
  - Section 1: Carla will be the new lead for section one.
  - Section 2: Amanda will be the new lead for section two.
  - Section 5: Catherine will be the new lead for section five.
  - Section 6: Needs a new section lead.
  - All other section leads are the same as last year.
  
2. **Committee Recruitment** - Please consider contributing to our community as a volunteer on these committees:
  - **Web Site Support** – 2 members: One member to provide technical support for the site, and one member to assist in ongoing development/review/update of content.
    - Volunteers: Carolyn; and still looking for one additional member to assist.
  
  - **Soup Kitchen** – A member to occasionally help deliver the produce to the Union Gospel Mission as needed.
    - This committee is no longer needed because the garden no longer delivers produce to UGM. The garden now uses the community fridge at 7th and Vine.
  
  - **Garden Party Leads** – There are twelve scheduled work parties this season, and each one needs a lead. Ideally, this committee has at least four members.
    - Krista updated that there is a good group of work party leads.
    - Action: Krista and Erin to confirm the work party dates after the AGM as there are some inconsistencies.
      - **Update:** Dates have been confirmed and sent out to members.
  
  - **Water** – Responsible for turning the water on and off as well as replacing water boxes, hoses etc.
    - Volunteers: Stephen and Eddie
  
  - **Tools** – Tool inventory and maintenance.
    - Volunteers: Rene and Doug
    - Jake has volunteered to continue mowing this year. Asked if this should be considered a volunteer position.
    - Doug requested using some funds on a new mower. Cynthia mentioned a shop in Kerrisdale that sharpens mowers - they were sharpened two years ago and the idea was sharpening them every two years. Cynthia will bring one in to be sharpened.

## F. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Disease control** - We garden in very tight quarters and all have a responsibility for plant disease management. Even long term gardeners are encouraged to take a moment to review the principles of disease management, and common plant diseases like rust and blight by reviewing the info and photos in Gardening Resources <http://maplecommunitygarden.ca/> If you discover rust, clubroot or blight in your plot, **remove diseased leaves, shoots, roots and plants *immediately* by tightly bagging and taking to an offsite garbage dumpster** to prevent further spread of the disease. Do not leave any infected vegetation on the ground as the spores, fungus or viruses will continue to spread. Also, let your Section Lead know where the disease has shown up so that other gardeners can be put on alert.
  - Discussion about increasing the signage at the green bins to stop people from putting dog bags and other waste into the bins.
2. **Invasive plants** - Examples include morning glory/bindweed, buttercup, goutweed, couch grass/crabgrass, etc. A reminder that every gardener is responsible for their Section, inside and outside. These weeds have extremely deep roots that multiply and spread rapidly to neighbouring plots and Sections. In fairness to your fellow gardeners, **please be diligent in digging out and removing roots as deeply as possible on a regular basis and disposing of the roots, stems, tops and seeds away from the garden.** Do NOT put any part of these invasive plants in the compost bins.
3. **Electronic Contract** - Electronic contracts will be implemented as an option for all gardeners starting in February 2024 at the Spring AGM. (Big thank you to Carla for her work on developing these!). Paper contracts will continue to be an option for those who prefer to submit a hard copy. **Please submit your electronic contract on the date of the AGM at this link: <https://forms.gle/rbVmCVVBkviDnBU7>.**
4. **Work Parties** - A reminder that work parties will be held rain or shine. We have heard that members plan their schedules around specific dates and that short-term cancellations are frustrating. With many work parties to choose from, there will not be any rescheduling except in exceptional circumstances.
5. **Communications** - Emails from Roundcube (the server that Maple Community Garden uses) frequently bounce back from Hotmail and more recently, Gmail accounts. We are working on possible solutions to this issue. In the meantime, emails may come from [infomaplegarden@gmail.com](mailto:infomaplegarden@gmail.com). There are no known issues with incoming emails, so please still feel free to reach out to [info@maplecommunitygarden.ca](mailto:info@maplecommunitygarden.ca) for the time being.
6. **Compost** - Kind reminder to please not individually add material to the compost outside of work parties. The garden is working to maintain a balanced mixture of compost. If you are interested in learning about maintaining the compost, please ask to help out with the activity at the next work party.
  - Krista: We cannot put the large bags at the bins anymore, as they won't be picked up. So any extra bundles or bags need to be taken to one's house.
7. **Seed Exchange** - A few of our members have proposed to set up a seed exchange in the spring! Stay tuned for more information and resources about how to collect your seeds.

## H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 AM by Malachi McKann.

## Maple Community Garden 2024 Dates

### Annual General Meeting Dates

<b>Spring AGM</b>	Saturday, February 24	10:00 AM (virtual)
<b>Fall AGM</b>	Sunday, September 22	10:00 AM (in-person)

### Work Party Dates

1. Sunday, March 10	10 AM to noon (alternate contract signing at 9:30)
2. Saturday, April 6	10 AM to noon
3. Sunday, April 21	10 AM to noon
4. Saturday, May 11	10 AM to noon
5. Sunday, June 9	7 - 9 PM
6. Monday, June 17	7 - 9 PM
7. Thursday, July 4	7 - 9 PM
8. Monday, July 22	7 - 9 PM
9. Thursday, August 8	6:30 - 8:30 PM
10. Monday, August 26	6:30 - 8:30 PM
11. Sunday, September 15	10 AM to noon
12. Saturday, October 5	10 AM to noon

**Note:** water is normally turned on/off at first and last work parties, temperature dependent.

Please use [info@maplecommunitygarden.ca](mailto:info@maplecommunitygarden.ca) for all garden correspondence.





[www.maplecommunitygarden.ca](http://www.maplecommunitygarden.ca)

Prepared by Laura Byspalko, Treasurer, Jan 22 2024




# Maple Community Garden - 2023 Financial Statement

For Financial Year Jan 1 2023-Dec 31 2023

<b>Annual Income</b>	<b>Projected</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Memberships	1,500.00	1,495.00 	-5.00
Donations/Interest	25.00	136.91 	111.91
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,525.00</b>	<b>1,631.91</b>	<b>106.91</b>

<b>Annual Expenses</b>	<b>Projected</b>	<b>Actuals</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Maintenance Fund (water, boxes, fences, gates, upgrades)	300.00	0.00 	300.00
Commons Improvements (trellises, plants, soil, common areas)	300.00	37.99 	262.01
Miscellaneous Admin (Insurance, admin, web)	500.00	529.25 	-29.25
Soup kitchen	150.00	60.37 	89.63
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,250.00</b>	<b>627.61</b>	<b>622.39</b>

<b>Annual Operating Surplus</b>	<b>275.00</b>	<b>1,004.30</b>	<b>729.30</b>
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<b>Financial Snapshot</b>	<b>As of Jan 1 2024</b>	<b>As of Jan 1 2023</b>	
Primary account balance (inc accumulated surplus)	\$1,940.66	\$1,865.76 	74.90
Term Deposit (for water management reserve)	2,849.24	\$1,883.43 	965.81
Vancity Shares	\$150.55	\$143.46 	7.09
<b>Total Cash on hand</b>	<b>\$4,940.45</b>	<b>\$3,892.65</b>	<b>1,047.80</b>