

LONG ISLAND VICTORY GARDEN TASK FORCE
FEBRUARY 3, 2010

Present:

Erin Thoresen
Imam Marghood
Tom Lyons
Richard Meyer
Susan Wilk
Caroline Kiang
Patricia Moynihan
Ginny Suhr
Leg. Viloría-Fisher

Imam—Roots Community Garden Program, through University Hospital’s Family Health Department (Josephine Connelly, RD, Ph.D.) First three gardens to be in Tuckahoe School District, Hobbs Farm and Wyandanch. Also, there is a Roots Community Garden in Southold (Peconic Land Trust).

Caroline—Two dozen community gardens including CSA gardens. There is a website for American Community Garden Association (ACGA).

Erin—There are 25-40 community gardens on LI, including Nassau County.

Tom—Works with Heifer International, and also Hobbs Farm, a registered Not-For-Profit, is on church-owned land; Town of Brookhaven owns 7 acres of farmland development rights.

Richard—SCDOH, successfully grows blueberries and was formerly on the board of the Comsewogue Youth Club, which has a community garden.

Patricia—LI Volunteer Center in Hempstead, Hands On Network (national)

Susan—Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, has a NYS grant “Creating Healthy Places Where People Live, Work and Play.”

Caroline—educator with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County, trains Master Gardeners. Community gardens: Project Blue, Town of Islip; Holy Cross Church, Nesconset; Setauket School, Setauket; Oyster Ponds School District, Orient Point; perhaps a dozen school gardens. Mary Foster Morgan—Slow Food East End.

Setting up the public hearings:

Suggested dates/venues are March 3rd-Riverhead County Center, 3-5 PM; March 10th-Brentwood Library, 10 AM-12 noon; March 24th-Brookhaven Town Hall, 7-9 PM; March 31st-Farmingdale State College, 3-5 PM.

People to be notified: each task force member will notify his/her contact list of those who may be interested; additionally, Rev. Goodhue, Sister Margaret Smyth-Immigrant Farm Program; use Tom Lyon's notice as basis for press release to be issued by Seth.

Community Garden Toolkit--issued by University of Missouri Extension

- p. 5—types of community gardens
- p. 7—Challenges
- p. 8—Giving Back
- p. 9—Five core beliefs of working in groups
- p. 10—Ten steps to success
- p. 12—Draft a lease agreement
- p. 14—Application or membership fee?

“Food grown must be culturally correct for the community.”

Immigrant garden in Patchogue—location?

Caroline—Tax incentive for giving land for a community garden?

Should the Task Force set up a Facebook page? Tom Lyons could ask the students to do it.

Town of Babylon Parks & Recreation (957-3143)

Next meeting: February 17th at 1 PM