

Meeting Minutes: DU Bridge Garden Steering Committee

Monday May 18, 2009 @ 8:00 p.m. - Driscoll Center Fireside Room

Student Attendees: Katia Gardia-Smith, Ben Waldman

Faculty Attendees: None

Community Attendees: Gail Neujahr, Donna Peterson

Gardener Attendees: None

This was a brief, lightly attended meeting. The discussion centered on plans for the common beds and the ribbon-cutting event to christen the garden.

Status of garden: Water turn-on is imminent e.g. expected on Tuesday May 19. Shed framing should be complete this week. Broad categories were agreed for planting the common beds in the garden. They are:

- * E border to be xeric, flowering perennials that will provide a sense of welcome and color throughout the season with low water requirements once established. We can supplement with annuals as this bed evolves. David Ciepley's apple trees will flank the entry gate;

- * NE border will be an example of native Colorado plant species that create a balanced ecosystem to invite beneficial insects, pollinators, butterflies, birds, etc.;

- * NW border will be planted with grape vines;

- * W borders behind the retaining wall will be planted with assorted drought-tolerant rock garden species;

- * S border adjoining the community area will be Native American species, as proposed by Candace Fleming;

- * E border adjoining the community area will be planted with herbs harvestable throughout the season by plot holders;

- * SE border will be edible berries, starting with currents and gooseberries.

We welcome donations of plants for these beds and ask anyone with suitable plants to follow the above plan when adding them to the garden. Gail will provide a separate list of desirable species. Donna will check with Country Fair nursery about free plants that they discard as shopworn but that would thrive with a little TLC.

Garden Dedication Scheduled for May 30: We will celebrate with a ribbon-cutting at 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 30. Zoe Turrill (lturrill@du.edu) is organizing the event. There will be brief speeches from dignitaries from the University, DUG and the Steering Committee. Cake, lemonade and water will be served. Ben is arranging for

tables and compostable plates/utensils. This will be a proud moment for all who worked on the garden/have plots for the season!

Communication: It's time to give the Bridge Garden its own digital identity. Ben will secure a new URL and work with Pam to migrate the information from the www.projectduet.com web site. We will establish a new list-serve and also have a gardeners-only list-serve for announcements/communication of interest only to active plot-holders.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Neujahr