



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2014

### MINUTES

Start time: 5:25pm

#### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Conducted by facilitator: Chantal Forgues

#### 2. Presentation and approval of agenda

- 2.1. No items added to the agenda
- 2.2. **Vote:** 30 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions

#### 3. Approval of 2013 AGM Minutes

- 3.1. No questions/clarifications
- 3.2. **Vote:** 26 in favor, 0 against, 4 abstentions

#### 4. Board of Directors Report

- 4.1. *First year where the Greenhouse had a Board. Completed duties: securing insurance for the Board itself, budget review and approval and contributed to summer visioning process. Recommendations made for future Board: rewriting policies and constitution, writing bylaws, and more outreach involvement.*
- 4.2. No questions

#### 5. Collective reports on project and services

##### 5.1. Workshops, outreach and events

- *Hot topics in urban agriculture series in which graduates, among others, participated.*
- *Overview newsletter which lists activities outside of the GH, such as workshops, internships, volunteer opportunities in other similar organizations*
- *Increased scope of outreach, more tabling, regular tours offered monthly, private tours on request*
- *5-7pm rental space for your community group or even AGMs*

##### b. Four Seasons Growing

- *Personal introduction: New coordinator for this project is presenting last year's achievements, as well as the change in focus the project is taking this year*

- *Last year: Emphasis on micro-greens with a boom in number of clients last. Included: alfalfa, buckwheat, mustard, kale - sold 545 kg of sprouts which were delivered to Outremont and other external locations as well as on campus sites. Hosted eco-stage internships from Katimavik program, which has helped structure this years internships;*
- *This year: additional internships made available, through the sustainability minor program at Concordia; focus on food growing and crops and partnerships with on-campus clients - specifically the Hive cafes.*
- *Clients for this year's production: Le Frigo Vert, Burritoville, Kafe, CafeX, the Hive. Partnership with People's Potato in development, linked to experiments in the GH's capacity of growing food, starting January*

**c. Aquaponics**

*Supervised by Stefanie Dimitrovas, managed by long-term volunteer Jonathan. The project has been running for more more than 4 years. Its location was changed, and the infrastructure was re-hauled and improved last year. Plants clean the water, and this year it aims to produce food that can be eaten. A workshop on how to build a similar system is conducted once per term, except for during the summer terms.*

**d. House plants and Tea Garden**

- *Beautifying plants as well as plants that are propagated. Volunteer and internships opportunities offered through propagation project. Three times a year there are plant sales, with discounts offered to fee-levy paying members. Last year, increased plant diversity from 45 to 98. We had the highest revenue we've had for that program, and have high ambitions for this project in years to come.*
- *The Tea Atrium space grows teas we provide to students, including tropical plants, so that students can see what these plants actually look like.*

**e. City Farm School**

- *Every year launched with a speaker and a free event. In 2013/2014, the speaker was Jean Martin Fortier, author of the Market Gardener, as well as SPIN farmer Curtis Stone who conducted a 2-day workshop on his gardening technique.*
- *Three-part permaculture series, hosted by Jonah Newmark, here in the Greenhouse, lead to building a food forest in the Loyola campus, and mushroom cultivation*
- *12-part workshop series on medicinal plants, with 25 participants in attendance*
- *Introduced bees at the Loyola Farm, producing 55 pounds of honey from 2 hives*
- *Internships offered included schoolyard gardener and market gardener. Farm at Loyola consisted of a half-acre of land with mostly annual vegetable. Clients*

*and participants were mostly Concordia staff and young families from the neighbourhood.*

**f. Visiting Projects and Space rentals**

- i. Window farm project: a legacy project in the Greenhouse that was initiated by a course-related project. Has experiences both successes and challenges, and will soon be reinstated and revamped.
  - ii. Compartment Rentals:
    - Pro-vert: Encourages quality of life for youth, beautifying their neighborhoods
    - Innovation jeune: For 12-24 year olds, teaches about growing their own food, promotes connection between students, food and the environment
- g. Questions?
- i. No question

**6. Financial Report**

- 6.1. Haven't had a chance to get our year end audited externally due to end of fiscal year being at the end of August, and AGM in early November. Will be made available on the website once financial review is complete. Review of financial statements.
- 6.2. See report for exact numbers. There was a net income of \$53,819.45, to be carried over to following year. Collective and Board will be voting on how this will be used.
- 6.3. Budget for the year shown, budget doesn't include the net income from last year

**Question regarding infrastructure**

Stef. Build in the 60's, when reopened, some structural stuff was done, asbestos removal. Wanted changes are the mechanical traps, which is archaic. Most of that money will likely go to those. IF there is left over it will go to ventilation, fixing leaks on laptops

**Question about how the deficit on the 2012-13 financial report was dealt with**

It was explained that the university lent the Greenhouse \$46 000, accidentally doing it twice. The error is on the books as a debt until the university decides to either grant us a retroactive loan or a method of repayment is found.

**Question regarding the net \$53 000 income from the unaudited report**

That extra money is what will go to infrastructure repairs, hiring a bookkeeper, the Vert-ta-Ville project for 2015 and enough money to pay for 3 months worth of the Greenhouse's operational expenses - as an emergency fund.

Vote on approving the budget:

30 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions

**7. Ratification of the arbiters list**

- Clarification on why this list is necessary - it is in our constitution as a conflict resolution tool for the collective and Board to make use of IF a conflict cannot be dealt with through internal interventions or mediation.
- Vote:  
30 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstention

## 8. Candidate Presentation

- Overview of rules and procedure for voting

### Undergraduate candidates:

Molly McGregor

Presented by Olga as she couldn't attend. Election based on write up submitted with her application to the Board, as well as additional information provided by candidate prior to AGM.

Eric Ducray

Third year engineering student, first attempt at getting involved in Concordia community.

Alison Hendra

2<sup>nd</sup> year in philosophy, minor in sustainability. Depended on GH to survive last winter. Wants to participate behind the scenes. Worked in a farm in S. California, farmers market, packaging seeds, for a month. Board work, exec committee for 2 years in high school, participated in MUN, networking, young professionals. Most important is social, communicator between student body and GH, creativity and art mixed with sustainability is of her interest, things like natural dying and other topics.

Angie

3<sup>rd</sup> year SCPA major, applied human relations minor, was already on the board last year, experience in collective decision making, wants to continue on the board. Want to maintain continuity. Old board member endorses angie.

Mitchell Arnott

Presented by Olga, currently at a bartending class. Election based on write up submitted with her application to the Board, as well as additional information provided by candidate prior to AGM.

Danielle Lemieux

Applied because she has become passionate in the relationship between stakeholders in a community, and feels the best way to participate is to get involved, which she believes is a big part of the greenhouse. Workshops and others is best way to teach sustainability. She has experience helping high school drop-outs, affecting change at a one-on-one basis. Also held an internship at a food organization in Rome, FAO, where she cultivate skills in relations, communications, networks, but also food networks in general, from farm to forest. Involved in

JOATU, similar to the city farm, advocating community gardens and spaces, but also generating currency to get around money.

Mathilde Thiery

Not present. Election based on write up submitted with her application to the Board.

**Community Member candidates:**

El Nasser (Moose)

Background in community development, spent 5 years in rural communities around the world, heavily involved in food sovereignty. Sits on the Board on in eco-preserve (Rara Aves) in Costa Rica, in the community development aspect. Got to start 5-year agriculture in Mali, rooftop gardens, and again with food sovereignty, particularly during a financial crisis. Currently getting MBA, thanks to Harper, learning the language of the fat-cats.

Shylah Wolfe

Not alumni, works with the Hive Café, interacts with CFS, involved in GH through permaculture design course. Cares about food sovereignty, smaller communities within larger spheres. Started the Fille qui pousse project with Olga. Wants to help cross-talk among organizations, free-lunch program, others. Has experience in non-hierarchical decision making. She knows what people like, can help advise projects, advise on clients. Active member of the community board of Le Milieu

Tristan Khaner

Yoga teacher, graduate student in psychology and sociology of teams. Role of board as supportive to the collective, to that end, will contribute. Strong training in conflict resolution. Humanistic approach in building teams. Background in business and analytics, turning numbers into information. Has experience in student led organizations.

William Stephenson

Interest in sustainability, urban agri, food security (took a class in food law). Third year law at McGill, chair of law journal, made the org more consensus-based. Sat on Ottawa's fulcrum.... 2012 helped non-profit by drafting new by-laws that complied with legislation.

Emma Despland

Faculty member in biology, involved via CFS, beekeeper. Work on strengthening ties with main mandates of University, which is teaching and research. Also working with academic circles in Montreal. Realizes its student run, but having a minority position representing faculty may be a good thing

Brandy Jugandi

Familiar with Tristan, in the same program. Specialize in human systems, cohesion. MO for being here comes from her community, Point St.Charles, which used to feed all of Montreal, and is going through gentrification. The IGA there is more expensive than anywhere else,

because people could go nowhere else. This motivates her, the action she thinks need to happen in the local level. She wants to be part of that change. Systems approach.

**9. Community Event Announcements**

November events at the Greenhouse presented. Other attendees also shared upcoming events.

**10. Election results**

Motion to end meeting and have vote results posted online.

*Addendum: Election results, as presented the evening of November 10, 2014 via Facebook.*

*Alison Hendra Angi Kiermaier*

*Danielle Lemieux*

*El Nasser Imam Amin (Moose)*

*Eric Ducray*

*Molly McGregor*

*Shylah Wolfe*

*Tristan Khaner*

*William Stephenson*

**11. Varia**

**11.1. Anti-austerity motion**

- i. Call for quorum was made, quorum is not met at 19, this motion is tabled.

**12. Adjournment**

Quorum was called and was not met at 19 voting members present. This AGM is closed.

**End time:** 8:30pm