

**TOWN OF COLMAR MANOR
WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2013
7:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Michael E. Hale called for a motion to call the meeting to order.

Motion made by Council Member Blue to call the Work Session meeting to order.
Seconded by Council Member Jackson.

PRESENT AT THIS MEETING:

Michael E. Hale	Mayor
Lois Ann Blue	Council Member – Ward 1
Cynthia Bowden	Council Member – Ward 2
Vivian Jackson	Council Member – Ward 3
Doreatha Epps	Council Member – Ward 4
Daniel Baden	Clerk-Treasurer
John Barr	Town Attorney
Tracy Stone	Media Coordinator
Judy Myers	Office Manager
Citizens	

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Council Member Jackson stated that Carrie Biggs, Garden Club President, has found a water tank for the Community Garden in the amount of \$400 consisting of two – two hundred gallon tanks at \$200 each with free delivery and set up from North Carolina.

Judy Myers, Office Manager stated that Mike Goroum has found already found a 1,000 gallon water tank that a resident living off of Lawrence Street is willing to sell the town for \$200. Mike Goroum purchased the wood for the stand for the water tank this date and has started preparation for building the stand.

Mayor Michael E. Hale questioned if there has been a fee charged for garden plots. Council Member Jackson answered no. The Garden Club will be depending on donations for plants, etc. and will have fund raisers for future expenses.

Judy Myers, Office Manager said that they Garden Club needs to become self-sustaining because future grant funding from the PTCHP is not guaranteed and they need to be able to cover the cost of water, additional soil, mulch, etc.

COOKING CLASSES

Mayor Michael E. Hale stated his concerns about the Cooking Classes and the food items purchased. Items listed on receipts do not match items used in the class.

Judy Myers, Office Manager gave an overview of the Cooking Class and reimbursement for food items.

Mayor Michael E. Hale stated that he will check with the Certified Cooking Instructor with Bladensburg High School to see if she would like to take over the Cooking Classes. Mayor Michael E. Hale also voiced his concerns on the sanitary conditions for the cooking instructor (no gloves, rusty/dirty grill, and dropped food items).

Mark Haskell's compensation exceeds the funding that will be received this year from the PTCHP for the Community Gardens for Colmar Manor and Cottage City and the Cooking Classes. Negotiations will be necessary for a Master Gardner and Chef.

RAIN GARDEN

Judy Myers, Office Manager questioned if the Council had a particular location that they would like the Ground Breaking Ceremony for the Rain Garden to be held. There are several locations where Rain Gardens will be built in the Port Towns. The intention is to have one ceremony promoting all of the gardens.

Council stated that they are open to any location for the Ground Breaking Ceremony. .

A discussion regarding the Town's Rain Garden and the one by the IHOP was held. The Garden Club would like to maintain the Town's Rain Garden. They are also interested in refurbishing the Rain Garden by the IHOP.

The garden by the IHOP is on property owned by Rufus Lusk/Harvey Property Management. This garden needs to be completely re-engineered because of lack of maintenance in the past. It will have to be investigated if the owner will absorb the costs for repair.

KIDS IN THE PARK DAY

Mayor Michael E. Hale stated that Kids in the Park Day needs to be rescheduled due to it being canceled because of rain.

After checking the calendar for upcoming events in the Town, it was the consensus of the Council to cancel Kids in the Park Day for this year. Food items and drinks are to be used for National Night Out. This would reduce the cost spent at Burger King.

Council Members Blue and Jackson asked to set a date for next year's Kids in the Park Day. It was suggested that Kids in the Park Day be replaced with a Colmar Manor Day Celebration.

WARD 3 & 4 BLOCK PARTY

Council Member Jackson gave overview of the Ward 3 & 4 Block Party. She said last year Council Member Epps spent \$400 and Council Member Jackson spent \$100 for last year's Block Party for Ward 3 & 4.

Ms. Jackson asked for reimbursement for the moon bounce and snow cone machine in the amount of \$275.00 for this year's Ward 3 & 4 Block Party.

Council Member Blue stated that they feel the block party should include the entire town in order to use town funds. Mayor Hale said that in the future, requests are made in advance for budgeting purposes and invitation should be submitted to all Wards.

MEDIA COVERAGE (TV, WEBSITE, FACEBOOK)

Council Member Epps stated that she would like for the town to be better advertised through the media via the website and town cable channel. She learned at a meeting with the PTCHP that Facebook and Twitter are also a good ways to promote the town.

A dedicated person would have to work on updating these programs. A student was suggested. Students have not made themselves available for processing the newsletters as was suggested at prior meetings.

Tracy Stone, Media Coordinator is to work on the media coverage and having the cable station working properly.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

Council Member Epps asked about the speed bumps proposed at a prior meeting. These costs were not placed in this year's budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Blue made a motion to adjourn the meeting.