

Lersøgrøftens Integrationsbyhaver

Generalforsamling Lørdag den 12. marts 2022 kl. 13:00 - 15:00

Meeting at Smedetoften 14, 2400 Kbh NV



Minutes:

1. Welcome

Cyndi welcomed everyone to the general assembly and asked if anyone needed it to be in Danish. It was agreed that slow English would be fine.

2. Election of moderator, minute taker, and vote counters

- Moderator: Cyndi - no objections
- Minute taker: Aaron - no objections
- Vote counter: Anders and Isa

3. Annual report

-Fælleskab / Community

A way to meet people. We have had problems with theft, gardens dug out, things stolen. It is suggested to be there, spend your time there, get to know the other gardeners. People are good at offering other things: jars, raised beds, seedlings, strawberries. The facebook group is often where this information is shared. In case you have overproduction you can share.

-Biodiversitet / Biodiversity

We have some wildlife in the garden this year. We decided not to give this garden (107) out this year, because there is a fox family. Once the babies move out of home we can consider giving it out. There is also a hedgehog house, some insect houses. We can also do personal things in the gardens to help the insects, by not taking every weed right now, and let the cabbage flowers (blooming now) for the insects to use.

-Havedage / Garden days

They are really fun. We hope that everyone comes to at least two, because it is what we agreed to when we take a garden. We hope everybody has a chance to come. They are usually three hours long, and we hope that everybody stays for at least one hour to help in the work. After the work we try to have fun, we often cook (flatbread, pancakes, grilled vegetables). We have also done sign painting. It is very important that everybody makes a sign for

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their garden. Other pictures of garden days: Harvest festival. We also had a speaker this year who presented organic gardening. We hope to have another educational presentation this coming year.

-Partnerskaber / Partnerships

We have been in communication with different groups and we often get approached by students and people wanting to do something with us. This sketch here is what we presented the commune, along with ByRum Laboratoriet, for a project of a Nordic Tiny Forest, but unfortunately, a week before we started the forest project a drilling took place in the same area (nobody was aware of this), so we hope to retake the project in the spring.

A small garden plot by the greenhouse was also given to the group from Bisp. hospital, so they can improve their mental wellbeing. They might move to a full size garden in the future, but for now they will keep that one.

There is another group called Skal Vi Lege Biodiversitet that are interested in workshops, small builds, so we will be pursuing this later in the year.

We also work with our providers, for example water and compost deliverers. This year, we will get champost again (a byproduct of growing mushrooms). Maybe we will also get some gravel to fix the flooded areas close to the greenhouse.

We need to replace some raised beds, if anybody has a supplier, please let us know.

-Ventelister / Waiting Lists

We have 30 new gardens this year. The waiting list is 39 for danish-born and 26 for non-danish-born. We will close when the added lists are 70-75, because we do not want too long waiting times for those involved.

-Faciliteter Forbedringer / Facilities Improvements

4. Financial report

1. Presentation of accounts

Ylva presented the accounts

We had a small profil of 45,580.09 dkk. Most of the money comes from the membership fees and waiting list fees. And also from people who do not come to at least 2 garden days (we are not that happy about that). We would rather have people coming to the garden days than having to pay for this special fee.

The biggest expenditures are compost and water. The ones from last year matched our budget so that is fine, we expect that this year might be more dry, so we will see about adjusting the budget accordingly.

There is money aside if anybody has a special project or idea, special equipment, etc. (endless possibilities), it can always be considered. We are keeping our savings because we hope someday that we can pay to have our own (city) water supply. Another reason we have more money is because the kommune has not billed us for land rental (so we have not paid), but we are setting money aside on that, just in case they do show up with a bill. It is 16.000 dkk a year to rent the plot of land we are on.

Questions about the financial report: None.

5. Suggestions received

1. From the board: Increase the membership fee for 500 kr -starting in the 2023 season- in order to accommodate increased water costs

Idea from a member: Collecting water systems. Cyndi explains we are not allowed to build roofs, but there are some ideas about collecting water, we hope we can execute this year.

Clarifications about the budget and the reasons for increasing the fee (some members had doubts). We expect water costs to increase because of increasing transport costs. Cyndi: We lowered the yearly rental about three years ago (it used to be 500), but we lowered it because we had excess savings. We might choose to increase the fine for not attending two garden days because it has been linked, but that would not be considered until next year.

In favor of increasing: **18**

Against: **2**

2. Change in the fine for not participating in two garden days

The board proposes that the fee should be unaltered - 200 kr. (half the garden fee). Last year there were 8 garden days between April and October. If a garden is represented by one or more attendees, one credit is given.

Everybody claps in agreement.

3. Waiting list fee: We suggest it stays 100 dkk a year. Khalil proposes that if a person has been on waiting list for e.g. 3 years (300 dkk) that is subtracted from the first membership fee, but it is agreed that would be too complicated to administrate.

Everybody claps in agreement.

6. Approval of budget

1. Presentation of budget

Ylva presents the proposed budget for 2022. The current budget is based on past expenditures (especially from 2021) and considerations for increased costs for water transport. Some money for the garden rental (16,000 dkk) are set aside in case the kommune sends the bill. If you see a need regarding tools/materials, you can check it with the board. If somebody buys something (a tool) you can check with the board and then it can be refunded.

Questions for the budget:

What is the "communication" line item? Maintenance of website and email provider, signs that we have put up, printing of photo contests. Administration is Winkas (membership system), bank fees, maintenance of office software packages, transaction costs.

In favor: **22**

Against: **0**

7. Election of Board members

Mauro explains the board tasks. Ditte, Ylva and Khalil finish their term, and whoever is elected will stay for two years. Cyndi and Nanna still have a year left in their terms. So there will be three positions opened: one for a danish, one for non-danish and one either.

Volunteers:

Aaron (garden #120, non-danish).

Mette (garden #41, danish), I have had my garden for one year, waiting list 4 years, it brings me so much joy, I feel that there are lots that can be done. I tend to join for board offers, part of many hojskole boards, economy stuff, social media stuff and live 5 minutes away from the garden by foot.

Khalil (garden #30, non-danish).

No need to vote because there are no more volunteers. Everybody claps in agreement.

8. Election of Alternatives

1. At least 2 shall be selected.

Ylva and Ditte volunteer. It is also suggested to have a third alternate because Ditte might soon go on maternity leave. We might get other volunteers from the non-attending members. Amy volunteered by email.

2022 Board Alternates: Ylva, Ditte and Amy

9. Election of internal auditor and alternate

Checking the financial report before the general assembly. It should be someone outside of the board.

Volunteers: Nime (garden #108) volunteers for auditor and Anders (garden #138) volunteers for deputy auditor.

10. Photo contest awards 2021, winner presentation

Nanna explains about the contest, the photos that were sent of different categories. We voted for the winners at the harvest garden day, and they will receive a gift card for Tag Tomato.

Garden 13 wins for "Garden life" category

Garden 13 wins for "Close ups" category

Garden 26 wins for "Harvests" category

Garden 59 wins for "Flowers" category

11. Suggestions/questions from the attendees (brainstorm):

Cyndi has a few questions, just to get to know each other best. Who is born and who is not born in Denmark. Who is in the first portion of the garden and who is in the second, third and fourth. Who started this year, 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2016. Who went to 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 garden days. Who is vegetarian/halal/meat-light. Who has started doing something for their gardens this year (seedlings, digging up).

- a. How is the greenhouse used? It is counted as one of our common gardens, they have "x" in the map. For the greenhouse you are welcome to place seedlings in, as long as you do not take too much space. It worked really well two years ago, less so last year to create shifts to take care of the greenhouse (a group that is set up for a two-week shift). Works well as a conversation thread on Facebook. We tried to plant tomatoes, cucumbers, last year a grape, but it might have died.
- b. Can anybody share knowledge about starting the garden? First thing you need to do is remove the grass, not necessarily everything else. Organic matter in the soil will feed the worms which is good. So having roots (except grass) you can leave. Last year we bought a few garden claws (blue and yellow) that are very efficient. It is like a "T" with handles and you stick it in like a shovel, twist and pull out, and it aerates the soil and then you just pull the grass

roots out. One of Jens tricks to water is to put a plastic container (those with holes in the bottom) in several places around your garden, is more efficient. Do not water at noon in the summer.

- c. What is the water allowance? 4 cans of water a week. That is not really enough for a garden. If people can bring water from home to supplement that is encouraged. A water collection project is pending. Another suggestion: do not use the sprinkler in the tanks, remove it and water plant by plant.
- d. Are wood chips allowed in the garden to minimize evaporation? Yes.
- e. Quite often tools are forgotten by members in the garden. It is a good idea if you spread the word of people not being forgetful with the tools in their garden. Maybe make them bright pink. Could be an activity for the garden day. Try not to leave anything in the garden, put it back clean ideally.
- f. A member explains they were really demotivated from theft. Ylva explains it is unlikely other gardeners, but rather from pass-by-walkers. Maybe we can consider personalized signs (at the garden day), maybe at both ends of the garden. Make sure that the container is locked up when you leave. Leave the lock in the door and put the key back in the keybox if you are the first to open, so that if you leave first, whoever closes last does not have trouble trying to find the lock.
- g. How do you open the greenhouse? Also available in the same keyring as the key for the container (both in the keybox).
- h. Is there any chance we could make some fence to keep the thieves out? The contract with the ckommune does not allow it. Maybe in one of the first garden days we need to demarcate the borders of some gardens, because there have been some shifts and subsequent conflicts.
- i. What about a well at the end of the garden to pump water from it? It has been researched but does not seem to be possible (the commune said no). The drilling at the end of the garden is from a city project that concerns a large set of pipes that take water from the ground to the sea.
- j. Regarding the proportions of what can be grown in the garden (flowers, bushes, trees, etc.), are there specific rules or just guidance? Big trees could have roots that damage underground structures. There is some conflict about certain structures (e.g. greenhouses) that project a shadow on neighboring gardens. Remember that we are an "organic" garden.
- k. Nanna: Thinking of the activity of willow weaving, how to get it to grow properly, and teaching techniques.
- l. Improvements: We have some flooding. We might have to do french drains, maybe we do it in the first garden days.
- m. Could we place a joint order for seeds, plants, and other materials for the gardens? Facebook is a good way to get those conversations going, or also at a garden day.
- n. What about the compost? It is organized with good intentions, but it does not work well. There are too many gardeners and people do not respect what should really go in there. People put grass in the wrong bin. Seeds and grass should not go in the compost. Maybe we will organize another compost team this year.

- o. When will the compost arrive? We need to order it and it depends on when they deliver, but probably in the next 2-3 weeks. Everybody can take a maximum of 2 wheel barrels.

Closure of the assembly at 15:27. We will soon send the garden day dates.

Board signatures

Formand

Kasserer

Næstformand

Bestyrelsesmedlem

Bestyrelsesmedlem