

TATE MODERN MINUTES
COMMUNITY GARDEN STEERING GROUP MEETING
Meeting held 16 May 2006, Meeting Room, Tate Modern

Present: Peter Graal – BOST (PG), Synthia Griffin - Tate (Chair) (SG), Donald Hylsop – Tate (DH), Edith Slee (ES), Joseph Bonner (JDB), Michael Osbourne (MO), Laura Ivill (LI), Joyce Bellamy (JB), Francois Tarris (FT), Colin Brewer (CB), Adam Bakkar (AB), Chris Bateman (CB), Charles Diddens – Better Bankside Ranger (CD), Brenda Vel (BV).

Apologises: None.

1 COMMUNITY GARDEN MOSAIC

ES in partnership with Tam Giles & Arthur de Mowdray presented a proposal to develop a mosaic for the garden. The preparation and construction of the circular base was discussed as well as the materials and making processes that will be used. Costing for the project was estimated at £2400 for labour plus materials.

2 INTRODUCTION

Guests Charles Diddens – Better Bankside Ranger (CD and Michael Osbourne were welcomed by the group. Existing steering group member Brenda Vel (Falcon Point resident) was also welcomed.

SG

3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Recent correspondence between Colin & Edith Slee and the Community Initiatives department at Tate Modern, in relation to the development of the community garden space, will be circulated by post to the steering group for information purposes. The previous minutes were agreed.

4 FEEDBACK ON PLANTING EVENING – 3 MAY 2006

Nineteen volunteers attended the recent event including members of the steering group including representatives from Nelson's Square and Falcon Point. Wild flower & annual seeds were planted and rubble was cleared from the topsoil. The group acknowledged Bill Carroll's (BOST Volunteer & local resident) contribution to the garden and thanks were extended to him for his consistent maintenance to the site over the last three weeks.

5 FUTURE PLANTING DAYS/ACTIVITIES 2006

In addition to the dates finalised at the last steering group meeting further dates to promote the garden, have been arranged on 13th June and 11th July (6-8pm). The format of these evenings will be to promote progress of the garden to date and to inform members of the local community about forthcoming activities and plans for the

space.

6 PROGRESS UPDATE

SG outlined the progress that has been made to date and presented an updated progress schedule and budget analysis to the group. SG confirmed that the remaining security measures; repositioning of the existing Tate modern camera (linked to the Security Control, Tate Modern) and the installation of the lighting system will take place on the week commencing 22 May and 9 June respectively. SG confirmed that a budget had been made available to purchase tools and resources to be stored onsite, PG to organise and report back to the group. Partnership work with Riverwood is continuing and they are working on developing a series of benches and an arch for the garden to be installed by August 2006, PG is in discussion with Phil Meakins and will report back at the next meeting.

PG

PG

Raised beds / pond and boarder definition

It was noted by PG that the Goldman Sachs herbaceous borders were not clearly defined and that a solution needed to be found. Suggestions included boulders or railway sleepers to de-lineate the space. PG to develop some proposals based on the groups feedback and present at the next meeting.

PG

7 COMMUNICATIONS - JDB

Joseph Bonner outlined a communications strategy. This encompassed communications with volunteers, PR activities for the garden and a mapping of garden stakeholders. It was noted that the profile of the garden needed to be raised at this critical stage before trial opening hours come into practice. There are currently around 40 people on the community initiatives database who have previously attended planting days and activities in the garden. JDB to continue working on the strategy with a subgroup to move things forward. SG reported to the group that she had contacted the web editorial team at Tate and it would be possible to develop a web presence for the community garden on the Tate website. SG to develop content and to collate images of the space that are held by BOST & Tate.

JDB

SG

CB confirmed that he had some early photographs of the space which may be included in the archival records of the space.

CB

7 ACCESS/TRIAL OPENING – Programme of Community Involvement

SG confirmed that at the last meeting an in-depth discussion about operational systems for the trial opening were discussed. It was agreed by the group that as part of a programme of encouraging community involvement in the garden, a system of registering the contact details of those that are interested in accessing the space would be trailed and monitored. A trail opening date of the garden was agreed - 20th September 2006 (in advance of a formal opening in Spring 2007). After registering their details interested parties would be issued with a password and guidance notes on how to behave in the garden. SG & DH reported that a similar operational model has

SG

been used as part of the Community Film club and works successfully. Charles Diddems (Better Bankside Ranger) was introduced to the group and it was agreed that the rangers would incorporate monitoring the community garden space as part of their patrolling route. SG to confirm timings with CB and to develop a code of conduct for the space. It was agreed that emergency numbers would be displayed in the signage that will be developed for the space.

SG

8 AOB:

SG confirmed that a list of the current members of the steering group has been passed to security control and that they can gain access to the garden from 16 May onwards. JB suggested that a wildlife logbook could be made available to record wildlife activity in the space & ES suggested a notice board would also be useful. A new padlock for the shed is to be installed, SG to follow up.

SG

Action Edith: to sort out dates with Fiona for Forage on the foreshore events
JB reported that the Metropolitan Gardens Association had awarded the group a grant of £700 to be used to purchase a bench for the garden.

9 DONM

Tues 27th June 2006, 6pm Meeting Room, Tate Modern