**Date and Time:** Wednesday, May 7, 2025

**Time:** 5:00 to 6:15

**Place:**  Falcon Ridge Meeting Room

**Attendees:** Linda Brown, Ren Gobris, Deb Bruce

**Absent:** Stacey Winsor

**Special Guest:** Caprice Falcon Ridge Resident and Potential New Board Member

**Announcements:**

1. The Garden sold 21 ducks and one “Quack Pack” during the May 3rd Duck Race. It was reported that 18 people joined a drawing to win a copy of Linda’s cookbook, “I Want That Recipe”. Special thanks to Linda Brown and Deb Bruce for their efforts.
2. Construction was restarted at the Garden on May 1. This Spring we hope to rebuild trwo low-lying beds, two tall plots, and place an additional 4-8 inches of topsoil in the beds that were upgraded last fall. The YMCA Elevate Gap Program is scheduled May 13 through 16 to complete the work. Questions about when to attach the irrigation system remain.
3. The Garden was awarded a $5,000 grant from VTS.
4. The annual Backflow Assembly test was done with passing results.
5. John Peterson, EVRPD noted that the water has been turned on but that there is a leak that will need to be repaired later this fall. The leak is 5 feet below the surface. It is not believed that this leak resulted in higher than normal water bills from last year but we should continue to monitor the situation as we begin using water this season.
6. Our insurance with United States Liability Insurance Company (USLI) was paid.
7. The EVCG taxes were completed (e-postcard Form 990N).
8. The EVCG Secretary of State Registration was updated.
9. PayPal has been activated which allows gardeners to pay their plot fees online. To date 4 gardeners have taken advantage of the service. But due to the extra costs (about 4% of deposits) and bookkeeping requirements, the continuing to offer the service remains questionable.
10. Due to construction at the Garden that is scheduled for the week of May 11th the next Finance Committee Meeting will likely not be held until the week of May 18th.
11. The next Board Meeting will be June 18th.
12. A meeting was held on April 14th at Falcon Ridge with residents who are interested in gardening during the 2025 growing season. The meeting will be hosted by Jessica Moffett, EPHA Housing Operations Manager. The EVCG Board attended

**Meeting Minutes:**

**The Following Reports Were Approved:**

Linda made the motion to approve, and Ren and Deb seconded. No descents.

1. April Statement of Cashflows
2. April Statement of Activities
3. April Board Meeting Minutes

**Upcoming Events:**

1. May 10 Orientation Day. Speaker John Rice from the Colorado Extension department will be there at 10:00. The event is being planned from 10:00 to noon.
2. May 13, 14, 15, and 16 Garden Construction. Will use up last year’s VTS funds. The YMCA Elevate Gap program will be in attendance.
3. May 29, 11:30 to 1:00 - Town of Estes Park Philanthropy Event.

**Potential New Board Members:**

1. As Ren’s announced intentions to leave the Board this July becomes more evident, the Board needs to redouble its efforts to fill Board vacancies and establish a small team to manage garden maintenance, construction and repair activities.

**Orientation Day:**

* Saturday May 10th from 10:00 to 12:00
* Jon Weiss to speak, County Extension Dept.
* Linda and Deb to organize snacks.
* Deb is to talk about the rules she feels needs to be reinforced like clearing ground at the base of the plot.
* Ren will make a few comments on the anticipated 2025 construction efforts and will talk about volunteerism… mowing, weed whacking, rodent control, construction projects, Board and Committees.
* Announce two events… Potluck and Harvest Fest.

**May Board Meeting Action Summary List:**

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| **Responsible Person** | **Action** |
| Linda | Write up the March Board Meeting Minutes  |
| Linda | Create a calendar to track events which will become an integral part of Board meetings going forward. (See upcoming events in these meeting minutes.) -In Progress |
| Ren | Schedule the next Finance Committee Meeting - Done |
| Linda | Set up a 2025 Volunteer Spreadsheet to track performance. To do. |
| Ren | Continue to monitor the irrigation system for possible leaks. |
| Ren | Order construction materials and coordinate the Spring construction activities during the week of May 12th. |
| Ren | Purchase and spread garden soil at Falcon Ridge upon successfully winning the Rotary Grant. |
| Ren | Set up the new irrigation system at Falcon Ridge upon successfully winning a Rotary Grant. |
| Linda | Set up an event at the community garden to display VTS Appreciation and Acknowledgement Signs. |
| Linda | Set up an event at Falcon Ridge to display the Rotary Appreciation and Acknowledgement Sign. |
| Deb/Ren | Post missing copies of minutes and financial reports in Drive and on the Website. July, September. and October appear to be missing. Ren to search his hard drive to see if these were ever written and/or can be found. |
| Deb/Ren | In preparation of orientation day, review applicable rules to decide which to emphasize and to explain what volunteer opportunities exist. |
| Deb | Investigate El Pomar grant for a new gate. Need a budget for gate. |
| Deb/Linda | Amend the board recruiting memo directed at gardeners and sponsors to correct the positions available and send out. Document is done but needs to be fine-tuned and sent out. |
| Deb | Have our Board Member Recruiting article published in EP News |
| Ren | Order construction materials from EP Lumber and Soil Rejuvenation to use up last year’s remaining VTS funds and prepare for the May 13 through May 16 workweek with the YMCA Elevate Gap program.  |
| Linda | Prepare a memo for all gardeners encouraging them to go to the May 29th “Brats and Barbie” event to raise donations for EVCG. |
| Board & Jim Redman | Re-establish squirrel trapping and follow up with the company that does removal of voles and squirrels that uses CO2 to set up a demonstration.  |
| Ren | Set up the battery charging station in the shed. |
| All | Continue to identify and purchase needed tools and equipment. A new battery for the weed whacker has already been identified. |

6:15 meeting end.