

Date: November 6 2021
To: Board of Directors, Newark Street Community Garden Association (NSCGA)
From: Membership chair Beth Kaplan nscgamembership@gmail.com
Re: Membership Committee report for fall meeting

We had another year of greatly increased interest in the garden from prospective members and excellent work from our dedicated volunteers. Many thanks to Lynn and Jane for their hard work this year. Lynn assigned a record number of plots and Jane handled invoicing and troubleshooting for our growing membership. We are currently at 233 individual members.

Membership numbers for 2021 growing season

2021 growing season numbers		notes	2020 growing season
Total number of member-assigned plots	234 (6 added in 2021)	(does not include beautification plots)	228
Plots assigned to new members	67		46
Names on waitlist 10.31 2021	259		266

Garden waitlist:

The garden waitlist was reopened in Spring 2021, and closed again on September 28 2021 at 272 names. The trend seems to be moving toward shorter times of membership, that is, more gardeners are interested (ballooning waitlist list) but gardeners do not stay as long in the garden, many leaving after a single year. There are a number of reasons for this, but it does appear that there are more young families and younger people in general interested in gardening, and that demographic tends to be less settled, ie, jobs require that people move in and out of DC more frequently.

Online invoicing system:

This was our second year of experience with the online billing and tracking system. The garden is now able to conduct most of the membership business online. This includes issuing the annual membership renewal invoice along with all of the relevant documentation that members need to receive in order to renew (bylaws, rules); issuing invoices and documentation to new members; and managing electronic payments and tracking payments by paper check. We're still working out the kinks and appreciate the membership's patience.

New membership email address:

The nscgamembership@gmail.com address has been retired. Members may contact membership at the new address nscgamembership@newarkstcommunitygarden.org

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Kaplan, Membership chair