



*Welcome to
Bogota Beautiful*

A path to beauty and abundance

Meeting Agenda for October 21, 2015 – 7:30PM

1. Roll-call

Board Members		
Chairperson: Amaru Bustamante	Vice-Chairperson: Isabel Bustamante	Secretary: vacant
Treasurer: Marysol Rodriguez	Council Liaison: Robert Robbins	

Active Members		
Debbie Deveau	Linda Diaz-Murphy	Randall Esulto
Maggie Fong	John Fowler	Joseph Gallagher
Daniele Fede	Cornelia Geraghty	Michael Leong
Pauline McDonnel	Christine Mitchell	Mayra Nguyen
Alicia Pugh	Michelle Rebain	Hector Rodriguez
Nancy Sierra	Patrick Teran	

2. News and Recent Events

- 2.1. Members Pauline McDonnel and Alicia Pugh volunteered and assisted at the Environmental Commission Tree Farm Pruning event
- 2.2. Volunteer Melissa Ramirez was in action around a Mural art project at the condemned property at 14 E. Fort Lee Rd. The project was canceled due to new construction now occurring at that location.
- 2.3. Community Garden Leaders have been in action around the Community Garden project including soil testing, attending a free workshop, demarcating the area, draft design layout, etc.
- 2.4. Community Garden Phase 1 installation was canceled due to inclement weather
- 2.5. Local artist and journalist Stephen Mazzella installed his artwork at host business Lukas Italian Cuisine. Thank you to Lukas for being a recurring contribution to the community!
- 2.6. Bogota Library Community Potluck is rescheduled to November 10th
- 2.7. Bogota Library is installing an art gallery system in the lounge

3. Open Projects

3.1. Community Garden

3.1.1. What: By permission of the Bogota City Council, a community garden installed by Bogota Beautiful, and maintained by Community Garden members that provides land for plants, flowers, herbs, and possibly produce

3.1.2. When: Year-round beginning October 2015

3.1.3. Where: Corner of River Road and E. Fort Lee Road next to World War I memorial

3.1.4. Why: To provide a common gardening space for Bogotians (including those who may not have their own gardening space, such as apartment dwellers) to share gardening tips and build friendships while contributing to the community and environment. To fulfill on the possibility of beauty, sustainability, and abundance.

3.1.5. Who:

3.1.5.1. Project Lead: Isabel Bustamante

3.1.5.2. Resources: Cornelia Geraghty, Nancy Sierra, Joe Baldacci, Marysol Rodriguez, Michael Leong, Pauline McDonnel, Alicia Pugh, Tina Trotta , Amaru Bustamante, Joseph Gallagher, Bogota Boys Soccer Club, Teaneck Community Garden leaders, etc.

3.1.6. Target participants: Bogota Beautiful Community Garden members

3.2. Community Potluck

3.2.1. What: A joint Bogota Library and Bogota Beautiful community potluck party to bring people together and encourages participants to bring a favorite dish or dish from their cultural/national background

3.2.2. When: Thursday, November 10, 2015

3.2.3. Where: Bogota Senior Citizens Center

3.2.4. Why: To bring the community together and provide publicity for the Library and Bogota Beautiful

3.2.5. Who:

3.2.5.1. Project Lead: Radwa Ali

3.2.5.1.1. Resources: Isabel Bustamante, etc.

3.3. Storefront Pop-Up Art Gallery

3.3.1. What: Request Bogota store-fronts and other public-display venues to host artwork of local Bogota artists. These might be “pop-up” events where artwork is displayed for a limited time, may or may not have an event associated with it (e.g. “meet the artist”, etc.), and the artwork may or may not be for sale as determined and agreed by the participants.

3.3.2. When: Year-round, on a rotating, and voluntary basis of participating hosts and contributing artists

3.3.2.1. Target June or July 2015 for first gallery event

3.3.3. Where: Bogota-based storefronts and other Bogota venues where artwork may be publicly displayed

3.3.4. Why: To promote local artists and businesses, and, in keeping with the Bogota Beautiful mission, to beautify Bogota and enhance the quality of life and level of satisfaction of its residents. To fulfill on the possibility of beauty and aliveness.

3.3.5. Who:

3.3.5.1. Project Lead: Amaru Bustamante

3.3.5.2. Resources: Isabel Bustamante, Joseph Gallagher, Bob Calleja, Daniele O’Brien, Stephen Mazzella, Robert Robbins, etc.

3.3.5.3. Target participants: Local artists, businesses, visitors

3.4. Give A Garden

3.4.1. What: Offer to plant a vegetable garden on neighborhood properties

3.4.2. When: Target Spring 2016

3.4.3. Where: Private homes’ yards, and other properties (e.g. corner of Fort Lee and River Road across from gas station)

3.4.4. Why: To meet our neighbors and introduce them to vegetable gardening as just one part of sustainable living. Also, in keeping with the Bogota Beautiful mission, to beautify Bogota and enhance the quality of life and level of satisfaction of its residents. To fulfill on the possibility of contribution and sustainability.

3.4.5. Who:

3.4.5.1. Project Lead/s: Joseph Gallagher

3.4.5.2. Resources: Cornelia Geraghty, Isabel Bustamante, etc.

3.5. Holiday Caroling

3.5.1. What: Second year of singing holiday carols to Bogota residents

3.5.2. When: November and December 2015

3.5.3. Where: Door-to-door, Town Tree Lighting, Nursing home, etc.

3.5.4. Why: To promote holiday and community spirit, and to give participants an outlet to perform and contribute to the community

3.5.5. Who:

3.5.5.1. Project Lead/s: Isabel Bustamante

3.5.5.2. Resources: Alan Gramkow, Amaru Bustamante, etc.

4. **Other Business, New Project Ideas or Requests**

4.1. Requesting a member to Volunteer as Secretary (meeting minutes, record keeping, status updates to social media, etc.)

4.2. Requesting creation of a Certificate of Acknowledgement that Bogota Beautiful can give to our volunteers and donors

4.3. West Fort Lee Cleanup project proposed by Hector Rodriguez. Initial attempts to contact DPW have been made and the Borough Administrator requires a specific date/time request

4.4. Wine and Cheese event proposed by Asia Burnett

4.5. Salsa Night event proposed by Tom Napolitano

4.6. Provide an incentive to residents to keep their properties well maintained (Bogota Code Enforcement, Nick Barese)

4.7. Have an artist design a garbage disposal for our Main Street made of durable plastic with paid advertising on the front and back with plant holders at top of opening with rear entrance to trash for easy disposal (John, owner of Dry Cleaners on Main Street)

4.8. Bogota Beautiful is applying to become a Non-Profit organization (Amaru Bustamante)

4.9. Website and Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest) are regularly updated Please Follow, PIN and Tag us anytime!

5. **Open Discussion**