



*Welcome to
Bogota Beautiful*

A path to beauty and abundance

Meeting Agenda for December 16, 2015 – 7:30PM

1. Roll-call

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

Active Members		
Debbie Deveau	Linda Diaz-Murphy	
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. Added “Updates” to the Open Projects section
- 2.2. Bogota Tree Lighting ceremony happened on 12/11/15 and the Bogota Girl Scouts and Schiller Institute Bogota Chorus sang at the event
- 2.3. The Schiller Institute NYC Chorus, which includes several Bogota NJ vocalists, is performing Handel’s Messiah:
 - 2.3.1. 12/19, 7:30pm, Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary & Saint Stephen R.C. Church, 125 Summit Street, Brooklyn NY
 - 2.3.2. 12/20, 3:00pm, Unitarian Church of All Souls, 1157 Lexington Ave, NY, NY
- 2.4. Dead trees have been removed from the W. Main Street street planters with replacement ideas needed
- 2.5. Holiday Light Strand Recycling Collection boxes have been deployed to various pick-up locations

3. Open Projects

- 3.1. Holiday Caroling
 - 3.1.1. What: Second year of singing Christmas carols to Bogota residents
 - 3.1.2. When: November and December 2015
 - 3.1.3. Where: Door-to-door, Town Tree Lighting, Nursing home, etc.

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

3.1.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Isabel Bustamante

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

3.1.6. Updates:

3.1.6.1. Three Christmas Caroling rehearsals completed so far, with last rehearsal scheduled for 12/17/15

3.1.6.2. Christmas Caroling at Bright Side Nursing Manor scheduled for 12/19/15, with more dates to be added

3.2. Salsa Nights

3.2.1. What: Three Salsa lessons (\$5 suggested donation) and one Salsa Dance Social (\$10 suggested donation)

3.2.2. When: Classes on January 7, 14, 21 8pm – 9pm, Social on January 28 8pm – 10pm

3.2.3. Where: Kennedy Emergency Services Building, 2nd Floor, 69 West Main Street, Bogota, NJ 07603

3.2.4. Why: To bring the community together via a fun event and to raise funds for Bogota Beautiful

3.2.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Isabel Bustamante

3.2.5.1. Resources: Amaru Bustamante, etc.

3.2.6. Update:

3.2.6.1. Isabel reached out to various local Salsa instructors to be involved. So far, we have a special guest instructor on January 21st.; Sasha Valerie owner of Gift of Dance

3.2.6.2. Requesting a volunteer to design a flyer for the Salsa Nights project

3.3. Community Garden

3.3.1. 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

3.3.2. When: Year-round beginning October 2015

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

3.3.4. 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.

3.3.5. Who: Project Lead: Isabel Bustamante

3.3.5.1. 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.

3.3.6. Target participants: Bogota Beautiful Community Garden members

3.3.7. Updates:

3.3.7.1. Community Garden six rain barrels have been prepped and are read for delivery to Bogota H.S.

3.3.7.2. Weekly calls have been suspended until January 2016

3.3.8. Give A Garden

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

3.3.8.2. When: Target Spring 2016

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

3.3.8.4. 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.

3.3.8.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Joseph Gallagher

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

3.3.8.6. Updates:

3.3.8.6.1. This is being moved as a sub-project of the Community Garden

3.4. Storefront Pop-Up Art Gallery

3.4.1. 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.

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

3.4.2.1. Target June or July 2015 for first gallery event

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

3.4.4. 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.

3.4.5. Who: Project Lead: Amaru Bustamante

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

3.4.5.2. Target participants: Local artists, businesses, visitors

3.4.6. Updates:

3.4.6.1. Bogota Public Library has been recently renovated and is working on a new policy for displaying artwork therein. The next Board of Trustees meeting is in mid-January, which is the soonest the new policy will be considered. Temporary artwork will only be displayed once a new policy is approved.

3.5. Earth Day Cleanup 2016

3.5.1. What: Second year Earth Day Cleanup event of Bogota areas

3.5.2. When: April 23, 2016

3.5.3. Where: Olsen Park, West Fort Lee Road (train tracks)

3.5.4. Why: To clean up public areas of Bogota and being consistent with a quality of life improvement

3.5.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Amaru Bustamante

3.5.5.1. Resources: Hector Rodriguez, Isabel Bustamante, etc.

3.5.6. Updates:

3.5.6.1. Amaru contacted the Council to begin coordination and is awaiting their feedback

3.5.6.2. Requesting volunteer/s to post flyers and/or banners around town publicizing this event

3.5.6.3. West Fort Lee Cleanup project proposed by Hector Rodriguez is being included here as a sub-project. Initial attempts to contact DPW have been made and the Borough Administrator requires a specific date/time request

3.6. Wine & Cheese Social

3.6.1. What: A Wine & Cheese social event

3.6.2. When: TBD

3.6.3. Where: TBD

3.6.4. Why: To bring the community together via a fun event

3.6.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Asia Burnett

3.6.5.1. Resources: Isabel Bustamante, etc.

3.7. Recipe Book Fundraiser

3.7.1. What: A custom recipe book that can be sold

3.7.2. When: TBD

3.7.3. Where: TBD

3.7.4. Why: A creative way to raise funds for Bogota Beautiful via an artistic project

3.7.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Linda Diaz-Murphy

3.7.5.1. Resources: Asia Burnett, etc.

3.8. Holiday Banners

3.8.1. What: Fixtures and Banners that can be displayed on W. Main St. year-round for different holiday occasions

3.8.2. When: TBD

3.8.3. Where: W. Main Street street lamps

3.8.4. Why: To beautify Bogota and celebrate different holidays

3.8.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Linda Diaz-Murphy

3.8.5.1. Resources: Brian, Bogota DPW, etc.

3.8.6. Updates:

3.8.6.1. Linda and Brian have procured donations of pole displays

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

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

4.1.1. Randall Esulto agreed to take on this request

4.1.2. Agreed on 11/18/15 that this will be included as part of the Earth Day Cleanup project

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

- 4.3. 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)
- 4.4. Free Health Screening event proposed by Pamela and Bill
- 4.5. Bogota Beautiful is applying to become a Non-Profit organization (Amaru Bustamante) – target March 2016
- 4.6. Website and Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest) are regularly updated Please Follow, PIN and Tag us anytime!
- 4.7. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!

5. **Open Discussion**