



*Welcome to
Bogota Beautiful*

A path to beauty and abundance

Meeting Agenda for February 17, 2016 – 7:30PM

1. Roll-call

Board Members		
Chairperson: Amaru Bustamante	Vice-Chairperson: Isabel Bustamante	Secretary: Randall Esulto
Treasurer: Marysol Rodriguez	Council Liaison: Kathy Gates-Ferris	

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

2. News and Recent Events

- 2.1. Monthly Meetings location has changed from Council Chambers to Steen School Media Center
 - 2.1.1. VFW has also offered use of their space as another venue option
- 2.2. New Events have been added to the website: <http://www.bogotabeautiful.com/events/>
- 2.3. Awaiting Trademark application status
- 2.4. Letter of Recommendation received from Mayor Kelemen
- 2.5. \$5K Grant Application submitted and we're awaiting status update
- 2.6. Dead Evergreen trees have been returned to Home Depot for refund. New trees/plants will be purchased for installation this spring.
- 2.7. 501c3 application is in progress with support of Pro Bono Partnership. Open item is three-year budget plan.
- 2.8. Salsa Nights completed; approximately \$200 raised. Thank you to the Bogota Rescue Squad, the instructors, and participants!

3. Open Projects

- 3.1. Wine & Cheese Social
 - 3.1.1. What: A Wine & Cheese social event
 - 3.1.2. When: March 15, 2016 6:45pm – 9pm
 - 3.1.3. Where: Bogota Rescue Squad, 2nd Floor, 69 W. Main Street
 - 3.1.4. Why: To bring the community together via a fun event and raise funds for the community garden project
 - 3.1.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Isabel Bustamante

3.1.5.1. Resources: Debbie Deveau, Asia Burnett, etc.

3.1.5.2. Updates: Sante Fe will donate wines for this event. Cabot Cheese declined to participate.

3.2. Earth Day Cleanup 2016

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

3.2.2. When: April 23, 2016

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

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

3.2.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Amaru Bustamante, Isabel Bustamante

3.2.5.1. Resources: Earth Day Cleanup Committee, Steen PTO, Bogota Girl Scouts, Bogota Rescue Squad, Hector Rodriguez, etc.

3.2.6. Updates:

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

3.2.6.2. Three Clean Up locations chosen (Olsen Park ball fields, West Shore Avenue up to VFW, and E. Fort Lee Road train tracks entrance)

3.2.6.3. Earth Day Flyer complete

3.2.6.4. Earth Day Banner purchased and will be installed in front of Steen School

3.3. Yoga In The Park 2016

3.3.1. What: Yoga lessons led by volunteer certified yoga instructors

3.3.2. When: Every Saturday in May and June 2016, 9am – 10am

3.3.3. Where: Olsen Park

3.3.4. Why: To promote health and wellness

3.3.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Isabel Bustamante

3.3.5.1. Resources: Amaru Bustamante, Lynn Demetrakis, etc.

3.3.6. Updates:

3.3.6.1. Lynn Demetrakis and Kathryn Livingston have agreed to be volunteer Yoga instructors so far

3.4. Walk with the Mayor 2016

3.4.1. What: A walk through Bogota with the Bogota Mayor, Christopher Kelemen

3.4.2. When: Tentatively Bogota Day, June 2016

3.4.3. Where: Tentative start at Borough Hall, route through the town, end at Olsen Park

3.4.4. Why: To promote health and wellness

3.4.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Amaru Bustamante

3.4.5.1. Resources: Christopher Kelemen, Angela Alberti, etc.

3.5. Storefront Pop-Up Art Gallery

3.5.1. 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.

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

- 3.5.3. Where: Bogota-based storefronts and other Bogota venues where artwork may be publicly displayed
- 3.5.4. 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.
- 3.5.5. Who: Project Lead: Amaru Bustamante
 - 3.5.5.1. Resources: Isabel Bustamante, Joseph Gallagher, Bob Calleja, Daniele O'Brien, Stephen Mazzella, Robert Robbins, etc.
 - 3.5.5.2. Target participants: Local artists, businesses, visitors
- 3.5.6. Updates: Awaiting update from Bogota Public Library regarding their new Art Gallery system. Temporary artwork will only be displayed once a new "fair use" policy is approved.

3.6. Holiday Banners

- 3.6.1. What: Fixtures and Banners that can be displayed on W. Main St. year-round for different holiday occasions
- 3.6.2. When: TBD
- 3.6.3. Where: W. Main Street street lamps
- 3.6.4. Why: To beautify Bogota and celebrate different holidays
- 3.6.5. Who: Project Lead/s: Linda Diaz-Murphy
 - 3.6.5.1. Resources: Brian, Alicia Pugh, Bogota DPW, etc.
- 3.6.6. Updates:
 - 3.6.6.1. Linda and Brian have procured donations of pole displays
 - 3.6.6.2. Custom holiday recipe book fundraiser in progress

3.7. Community Garden

- 3.7.1. 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
- 3.7.2. When: Year-round beginning Q2 2016
- 3.7.3. Where: Corner of River Road and E. Fort Lee Road next to World War I memorial
- 3.7.4. 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.
- 3.7.5. Who: Project Lead: Isabel Bustamante
 - 3.7.5.1. 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.
- 3.7.6. Target participants: Bogota Beautiful Community Garden members
- 3.7.7. Updates:
 - 3.7.7.1. Community Garden five rain barrels are being worked on as an art project in Bogota H.S. art class, and initial photos have been provided of the progress
 - 3.7.7.2. English and Spanish language Sponsorship letters have been created and are being distributed
 - 3.7.7.3. Joe Baldacci is working on potential building permit requirements

3.7.7.4. Volunteers are obtaining petition signatures, and an online survey has been created, of individuals supporting a Community Garden implementation

3.7.7.5. Confirmed that a Community Garden counts for 10 points towards Sustainable NJ re-certification:

<http://www.sustainablejersey.com/actions-certification/actions/#close>

3.7.7.6. Amaru is working on a project plan to present to the City Council for their review and approval

3.7.7.7. Sculpture art donation has been procured

3.7.7.8. Community Garden Club needs to be formed to uphold rules, etc.

3.7.8. Give A Garden

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

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

3.7.8.3. Why: To meet our neighbors and introduce them to vegetable gardening as just one part of sustainable living. 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.

3.7.8.4. Who: Project Lead/s: Joseph Gallagher

3.7.8.5. Updates: Moved as a sub-project of the Community Garden project

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

4.1. Bogota Beautiful will participate at the Green Fair, March 19th 10am – 1pm

4.1.1. Requesting two volunteers in addition to Joe G.

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

4.2.1. Randall Esulto agreed to take on this request

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

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

4.4. Free Health Screening event proposed by Pamela and Bill

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

5. **Open Discussion**