

THE PUBLIC GARDEN

Maya Fell
Winnie McNally
Khachoe Ronge



The Public Garden.

Adelita Husni-Bey. *The institution will become a radical education center and garden.* 2018.
Chromogenic color print. 142 × 177 cm. Courtesy of the artist and Laveronica arte contemporanea. © 2020 Adelita Husni-Bey

Date: March 14, 2020 12:16:51
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
CC: alldirectors@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: Virus Detected in The Building Press Release

Hello All,

As many of you may know a Virus has been detected in the building and as of 12pm today, we have 3 confirmed cases. We are working carefully to separate the cases from the rest of the population as well as track individuals who may have come into contact during the contagion window.

It is imperative that we distribute this information swiftly and directly to the residents. The most efficient way in which to distribute this information while avoiding a mass panic would be with an informed press release from The Public Garden. Please see the first draft below. As always, with the public garden the press materials we distribute are a collaborative process and I encourage you to edit in any way you see fit.

I also wanted to mention that we have temporarily closed the library, archive and research center locations. Our librarians, researchers and archivists will have the ability to work remotely from their living spaces. This will aid in the effort to control the spread and should not hinder their ability to continue their work as we have an extensive database in which they can work from. Our next step will be to brainstorm best practices for protecting our medical workers and other essential workers from the virus. These environments are greatly susceptible to spread and we are looking for any and all solutions.

Stay safe and healthy

Sincerely,
Mia

Mia Pell
Director of Research and Distribution
The Public Garden

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If knowledge = power then ones body autonomy = survival

It is our goal to arm all people with knowledge so that you can best advocate for your individual bodies.

Keeping these values in mind, we regretfully inform you that the Covid-19 Virus has been detected within The Institution. We have currently 3 confirmed

cases, which are now isolated from the major population. We suspect that if there are 3 cases, there will be more, as the nature of the virus is elusive and difficult to detect, it is possible that it has been infiltrating our population for sometime now. It is imperative to remain calm. There are various practices each individual can commit to in order to defend our community from the virus.

The Public Garden has consulted with our Medical Research Center in order to circulate the most effective practices to prevent spread of the virus. It is imperative that these practices be used consistently.

How to protect yourself from the Virus

- Wash hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your face as much as possible
- Keep a social distance of 6ft.
- Cover face when outside / in an environment where contamination is a possibility
- Self Quarantine at first Signs virus symptoms:
 - Loss of taste and smell
 - Fever of 104+
 - Sore throat
 - Diarrhea
 - Runny/ stuffy nose
 - Coughing, shortness of breath

Date: March 15, 2020 10:16:51
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
CC: alldirectors@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Virus Detected in The Building Press Release

Hi All,

As per my last email, this is a pressing and rapidly changing situation. It is of the utmost importance to finalize and distribute this statement in order to best contain the public health crisis. I am eager to hear your thoughts and edits on the Press Release. Either way- the printing deadline will be 4pm today. After 4pm, it will be finalized and distributed through the building.

Inaction is a form of action! Our silence is heard amongst the residents, we need to get ahead of this ASAP.

Wishing you health and safety I know these are sensitive times.

Sincerely,
Mia

Mia Pell
Director of Research and Distribution
The Public Garden

Date: March 15, 2020 16:32:13
From: sav@thepublicgarden.org
To: alldirectors@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Virus Detected in The Building Press Release

Hi Mia,

My apologies for the delayed response. I spoke to some researchers and they mentioned that the Covid-19 could've arose from the sustainable farming market. No official research has been published yet but I will keep you updated. Seeing how quickly the virus is spreading the Sustainable Management team is worried about production and distribution. If this virus affects the sustainable farming sector we will have to start rationing.

We don't need to share that with the resident until we find more information. But until then we NEED to assure our communities that we are doing everything we can to stop the virus and things are under control.

Best,
Sav
Director of People
The Public garden

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Keeping these values in mind, we regretfully inform you that on March 15, 2020 the Covid-19 Virus has been detected within The Institution. We have currently 35 confirmed cases, which are now isolated from the major population. We suspect that if there are 3 cases, there will be more, as the nature of the virus is elusive and difficult to detect. It is possible that the virus has been infiltrating our population for sometime now. It is imperative to remain calm. We are taking proper precautionary measures and working closely with the Medical Research Center to find the origin of the virus and ensure the safety of our communities. There are various practices each individual can commit to in order to defend protect our communities from the virus.

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 - Diarrhea
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 - Coughing, shortness of breath

Date: March 16, 2020 17:02:00
From: sav@thepublicgarden.org
To: mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Virus Detected in The Building Press Release

Hi Mia,

Please ignore the first email, I didn't mean to send the last email to all. I've made additional changes and I think the press release is good to go out as soon as possible. Feel free to make any additional changes.

Sav
Director of People

.....

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Keeping these values in mind, we regretfully inform you that on March 15, 2020 the Covid-19 Virus has been detected within The Institution. We have currently 35 confirmed cases, which are now isolated from the major population. We suspect that if there are 3 cases, there will be more, as the nature of the virus is elusive and difficult to detect. It is possible that the virus has been infiltrating our population for sometime now. It is imperative to remain calm. We are taking proper precautionary measures and working closely with the Medical Research Center to find the origin of the virus and ensure the safety of our communities. There are various practices each individual can commit to in order to defend protect our communities from the virus.

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 - Fever of 104+
 - Sore throat
 - Diarrhea

- Runny/ stuffy nose
- Coughing, shortness of breath

We will keep releasing statements as we find more information. Please follow all proper guidelines set by the Medical Center.

-The Public Garden

Date: March 16, 2020 18:02:00
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
To: sav@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Virus Detected in The Building Press Release

Hi Sav,

Many thanks for your edits. As this is a quickly evolving situation I have run this by our PR for an OK and they have sent it to print.
Please see the official Press Release attached.

I'm concerned with the information you provided suggesting that the sustainable farm markets are the possible epicenter- if this is true our most vulnerable and essential population is at the largest risk.

It is also my understanding from the Medical Center that research, that social distancing is the most effective response to the virus. We are conducting studies on what may be best practices for our essential workers to social distancing while in the workplace.

Let's keep in touch about this developing situation.

Sincerely,
Mia

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then
body autonomy = survival

It is our goal to save all people with knowledge so that you can best advocate for your individual bodies.

Keeping these values in mind, we regretfully inform you that on March 15, 2020 the Covid-19 virus has been detected within The Institution. We have currently 5 confirmed cases, which are now isolated from the major population. We suspect that we may have more, as the nature of the virus is elusive and difficult to detect. It is possible that the virus has been circulating on campus for some time now. It is imperative to remain calm. We are taking proper precautionary measures and working closely with the Medical Research Center to find the origin of the virus and ensure the safety of our communities. There are various practices each individual can commit to in order to protect our communities from the virus.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|-----|------|
| Our | Medical | Research | Center | issued | the | most |
| effective | practices | to | prevent | spread | of | the |
| virus. | | | | | | |

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We will keep releasing statements as we find more information. Please follow all proper guidelines set by the Medical Center.

-The Public Garden

Cvd-19_PR_3_20.pdf
(See Full Image Below)

Date: March 18, 2020 8:23:00
From: sav@thepublicgarden.org
To: mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: Sustainable workers dev. situation

Mia, do you think we're going to need to start a lockdown? And have you seen this poster? I heard something about an event coming up soon. Wonder if we can send additional security to make sure the workers keep a safe distance but we don't have many personnel to waste on this.

We might just have to make sure this event does not happen.





Workerdemands.pdf
(See Full Image Below)

Date: March 18, 2020 8:28:00
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
To: sav@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Sustainable workers dev. Situation

Hi Sav,

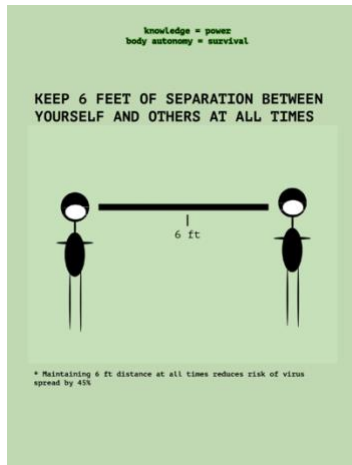
I really value how 'in tune' you are with our essential worker population! This flyer is very concerning! However, I don't think a lockdown will be necessary - and anyway, we need workers to be working the crops as much as possible in order to avoid rationing.

The Medical Center has advised us to institute a mandatory distancing order in all spaces. This would include workspaces. They suggest at least 6 ft of separation between each individual.

I think we can start instituting this within the garden and see if it works there. Each sustainable farmer can work on a 6"x6"ft. plot of land.

Can you pass the attached message along to our sustainable gardening team?

Many thanks,
Mia



6ftStopSpread.pdf
(See Full Image Below)

Date: March 19, 2020 08:13:00
From: sav@thepublicgarden.org
To: mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: 6 x 6 worker concerns
Mia,

I've circulated the 6x6 flyer to the sustainability sector. However, this concerning flyer has been distributed among the farmers in response. If not resolved quickly there will be major consequences. The sustainability workers are refusing to work and we don't know for how long.

The Essential Sustainability workers and our Healthcare workers are crucial in combating this viral outbreak. We need our essential workers now more than ever. I'm worried the Sustainability workers don't realize how important and brave they are to be on the frontlines.

I'm thinking we should have an appreciation party for them and remind them that we care about their bodies.

Let's make this a priority so our sustainable workers can continue their work.

Best,
Sav



WorkerStrike.jpeg
(See Full Image Below)

Date: March 19, 2020 09:30:00
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
To: sav@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: 6 x 6 worker concerns

Sav,

This is shocking, my office looks down on the garden and usually my favorite part of the view is seeing the farmers working, cultivating the earth and sustaining us with nutrients. Today I can not take pride in such a view, as the workers are striking in defiance of the conditions. I can't help but feel that we are failing to support them in substantial ways. They are clearly in need of a moral boost.

Your suggestion of an appreciation event is genius! In fact, I suggest that we, the researchers, organizers and directors act as the service workers for this event. In an homage to their hard work, we will farm, prep, cook and serve the sustainable workers. I see this conflict as merely a breakdown in communication - I'm sure you can agree as a director that the core of The Public Garden is reliant on these workers and we very much appreciate their labor. Let us also set aside some time during the event for the workers to present their concerns. I'm sure we will be able to find a compromise for this situation.

Looking forward to hearing your thoughts - I will reach out to our events team to work out the details for this event.

Sincerely,

Mia

Date: March 19, 2020 11:30:00
From: sav@thepublicgarden.org
To: mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: Worker Appreciation Dinner

Hi Mia,

This appreciation party is a great way for us to reconnect with our workers and the earth! I think it's a wonderful gesture of our appreciation.

We should plan to host this soon so we don't slow the production. Lets get some invitations out.

Best,
Sav

Date: March 19, 2020 11:30:00
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
To: sav@thepublicgarden.org tracy@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: Worker Appreciation Dinner

Hi Sav,

I've included our events team so that we can coordinate logistics for the Appreciation Dinner. We are thinking Saturday, March 21th at 5:30pm would be a good time. Tracy from events will provide you with the invitation - we were thinking it would be best for you to distribute it to the workers. She will also be sending your detailed personal schedule for Saturday.

Our Agriculture Researchers suggest a menu of: Leeks, Kale, Spring Cabbage and Brussel sprouts as they are in season. Tracy is also looking into importing grain or a meat supply to supplement the vegetables. That will be a real treat for the workers!

I'm actually looking forward to getting my hands a bit dirty and re-connecting with nature through gardening!

Best,
Mia

Date: March 19, 2020 13:30:10
From: tracy@thepublicgarden.org
To: sav@thepublicgarden.org mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: Worker Appreciation Dinner Itinerary

Hello Sav and Mia,

We have enjoyed planning this lovely appreciation dinner. It was a great opportunity to learn more about where our food comes from, as well as a way to contribute to the effort.

Attached you will find the event invitation for the workers as well as your individual schedules for the evening. The event staff is looking forward to doing their part in appreciation as well.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. My team and I will be on call throughout the night.

Sincerely,
Tracy

Director of Programs and Events
The Public Garden



DinnerInvite.PDF MPell_Itinerary.PDF Sav_Itinerary.PDF
(See Full Images Below)

Date: March 19, 2020 15:05:22
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
To: tracy@thepublicgarden.org sav@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Worker Appreciation Dinner Itinerary

Dear Tracy,

Thank you so much for putting this together - especially in such a short amount of time!

I know my team is looking forward to the event. I'm just wondering if it is really necessary to start at 4am?! Of course, I'm happy to - just making sure it's not a typo!

-Mia

Date: March 20, 2020 07:35:42
From: tracy@thepublicgarden.org
To: mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Worker Appreciation Dinner Itinerary

Hi Mia,

It was our pleasure to organize the event.

Thank you for looking over the itinerary. In regards to your question regarding the time to report to Gaia - yes 4am is when the typical sustainable farmers day starts. When we put together the schedules we felt it was important to mirror the average sustainable workers daily timeline as much as possible. If there is an issue however, we can speak with Gaia and see if there is an alternative.

Let us know,
Tracy

Date: March 20, 2020 09:40:33
From: mia@thepublicgarden.org
To: tracy@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: RE: Worker Appreciation Dinner Itinerary

Hi Tracy,

Oh of course! 4am shouldn't be a problem then - let Gaia know I'll see her tomorrow bright and early!

Best,
Mia

Date: March 21, 2020 12:13:45
From: sav@thepublicgarden.org
To: mia@thepublicgarden.org
Subject: Sustainable Workers Update

Directors,

Today is the Appreciation Party, a party that should've happened a long time ago. I've attached a list of demands the Sustainability Essential Workers presented at the meeting. They don't just want a party but they want us to act. I encourage all Public Garden directors to ensure our workers feel heard and appreciated.

Most of you have already started setting up for the event. Thank you.

Work hard and stay safe!
Sav



WorkersDemands.pdf

Sustainability Workers / Public Garden Treaty

Having worked all day in the shoes of our essential workers, *The Public Garden* Directors are exhausted, astonished and deeply concerned about the conditions our workers endure daily. We need to work together towards our collective future through communication and compassion in action.

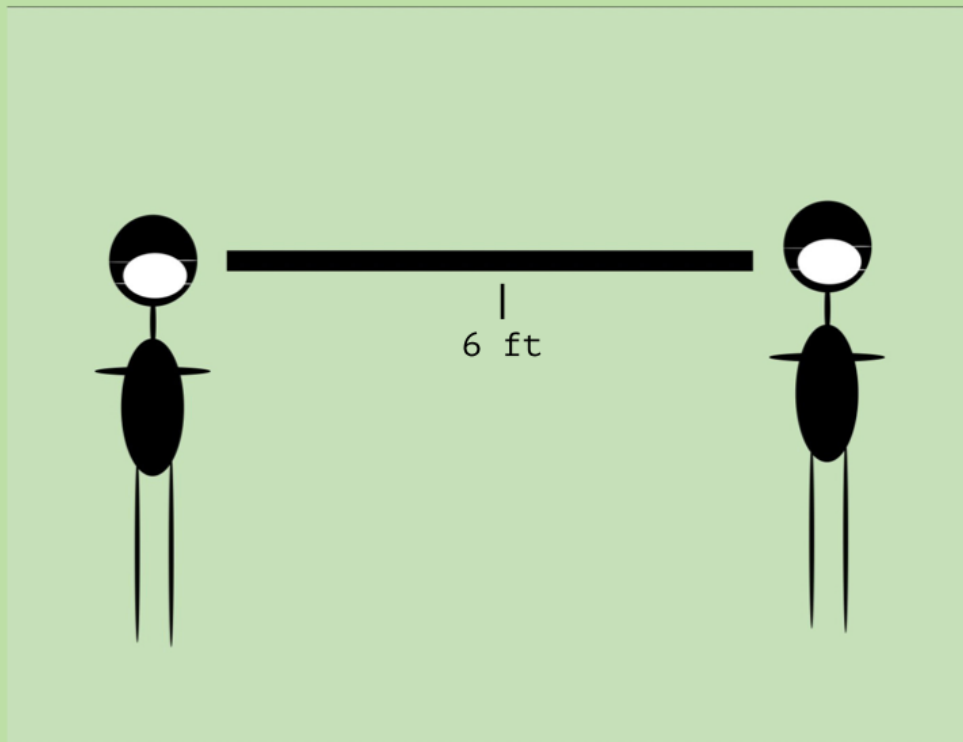
Our role as *The Public Garden* is to allow our communities to advocate for themselves by giving them a chance to speak. It is to allow our communities to grow by providing the tools so they can flourish. We do not intend to act as a governing body but as a resource for all communities within *The Public Garden* to utilize, and enrich themselves. In the past we have failed to protect our most vulnerable in a time when they most needed guidance. We vow to challenge our perspective. We can only preach a habitat of equality, justice and freedom if all voices are heard. Today we invite all voices to the table.

The Public Garden is proud to redistribute resources to our Workers. We have cut our security budget in half as we see there is no need for them to patrol our workers. Through re-streaming the funds we can meet workers demands.

In order to ensure that no groups' needs go unmet within *The Public Garden*, The Sustainability Workers Union has been instituted as an advisory council for our team of directors.

In solidarity - *The Public Garden*

Appendix, with Full Images from Above



knowledge = power
body autonomy = survival

WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US @ THE SUSTAINABLE WORKERS
APPRECIATION EVENT

The Sustainable Worker Community is a vital part of The Public Garden. In strenuous times, we rely heavily on our sustainability sector since they are as their title would suggest - essential to the survival of The Public Garden. Research shows that undue stress is carried by these workers, stress that we can aid in unburdening them with. It is with this event that we hope to show our appreciation to the Sustainable Worker Community.

By working the land, harvesting the crops, cooking and serving the food for one night, as you do every day we hope to learn the plight of your daily lives. The Public Garden believes that knowledge is power. By working the very land that you have toiled we hope to gain insight to your lives. We will learn from these experiences and find ways to improve your daily lives.

We want to hear your concerns - please join us for a night of appreciation and listening.

TIME: Saturday, March 21th at 17:30

LOCATION: 6th Floor - Directors Room

We look forward to serving you.

- The Public Garden

knowledge = power
body autonomy = survival

MIA PELL (DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & DISTRO): ITINERARY APPRECIATION DINNER PREP

**

04:00 - 08:00 Report to Gaia, Director of Sustainable Agriculture
for morning tasks [Ground Floor - Main Greenhouse]

09:00 - 12:30 Join quality control team surveying crops to be used
for event [Ground Floor - Field 4]

12:30 - 13:00 Break

13:00 - 15:00 Join Harvesting team / Photo Op @ 14:00 [Ground Floor
- Main Greenhouse]

15:00 - 16:00 Transport and prep harvest [Ground Floor: Main Green-
house to Basement Kitchen]

16:00 - 16:50 Assist Kitchen Team

16:50 - 17:05 Plate food

17:50 - 18:00 Serve workers

18:00 - 18:30 Round Table Discussion

**

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- Runny/ stuffy nose
- Coughing, shortness of breath

We will keep releasing statements as we find more information. Please follow all proper guidelines set by the Medical Center.

-The Public Garden

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SAV (DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE): ITINERARY APPRECIATION DINNER PREP

06:00 - 07:00 Report to Mika, Program Coordinator for overview and briefing

08:00 - 8:30 Breakfast in workers dining hall [Basement Cafeteria]

08:30 - 12:00 Meet with Sustainable Workers Union Leaders - snacks provided [Basement Dormitory]

12:00 - 15:00 Join Harvesting team / Photo Op @ 14:00 [Ground Floor - Main Greenhouse]

15:00 - 16:00 Transport and prep harvest [Ground Floor: Main Greenhouse to Basement Kitchen]

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~~knowledge = power~~
~~body autonomy = survival~~

We the people of the Sustainability Worker's Union are sickened by the way
The Public Garden is handling the spread of the Virus.
Our community on which you feed is in danger.
It is in danger due to ignorance
It is in danger due to inaction
It is in danger because you chose to ignore
When asked to step up - we did.
We stepped up and ran towards the battle
For our communities, for our people, for you.
We fought to sustain as sustainability workers but what sustains us?
Everyday we go out in the battle we are losing our brothers and sisters
Everyday we come back we fear hurting our loved ones
This is not a casualty of war on the virus
This is a casualty of privilege, casualty of ignorance, casualty of inaction.

We are tired, we are afraid and we will no longer WAIT
There is work to be done and
We want better working conditions so we can continue to be the heroes you
want us to be.

List of Demands:

- X Safe Work Environment*
(*well ventilated work space, proper protective equipment, screening for symptomatic workers)
- X Flexible, staggered and less demanding hours
- X Direct access to Healthcare
- X Access to the same resources and comfortable living space as the Board of Directors

Circulated by the Sustainable Workers Union

LAY DOWN ON YOUR 6x6

