

DCOG Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: The Barn

Attendees:

John Kriek, Ann Bone, Anna Schoenbacher, Jacob Hayes, Sarah Phillips, Beth Paschetto, Pam Robinson, Taylor Levinson, Richard Osterholtz

Call to Order: 6:30 PM by Ann Bone

Chairpersons' Report

Presenter: Ann & Pam

Topics: Call to Order, Review April Minutes, Plant sale

- DCOG was featured in a Rough Draft article!:
<https://roughdraftatlanta.com/2026/04/30/community-gardens-donate-produce/>
- April minutes were approved unanimously
- Plant Sale on behalf of Cyndi
 - Very successful, best sale numbers on record: over 15 thousand dollars
 - Special thanks was given to:
 - Cyndi for running and planning it effectively
 - Ann and Pam for design/staging help
 - Richard, Art and the rest of the greenhouse team for all the work getting seedlings and plants ready
 - Beth for keeping volunteers fed and hydrated
 - All of the volunteers (over 30)
 - Those who also donated plants for the sale
- May Garden of the Month: Chuck and Ellen Wing in bed #303
- Pantry beds are filled thanks to 4 new team members
- Harvest last week: 110 lbs of food
 - Diakon and other radishes, collards, lettuce, peas, and chamomile
- We have about 30 volunteers from Keller Williams coming to help build a new flower bed on 5/14
 - Will be using leftover flowers from plant sale to help fill bed once built

Events Report

Presenter: Beth.

Topics: Wine & Cheese night

- Wine and Cheese party was a great success and came in well under budget
- Not much excess food thankfully, but leftover wine we can hold and use for the annual meeting this fall
- Over 80 attendees
- Beth suggested a water cooler for the barn/greenhouse so we don't have to buy water bottles and cut single use plastics, she will be exploring possible options

Greenhouse Report

Presenter: Richard

Topics: Plant Sale recap, greenhouse pantry beds

- Greenhouse pantry beds planted for summer crops
- Sprayed for whiteflies
- Eggplant leftovers from the sale are planted, other leftovers to be used in the pantry bed program

Treasurer's Report

Presenter: John

Topics: Budget Update post Plant Sale

- Plant Sale success means that we will have a net surplus for the year instead of the planned deficit
- Due to that cash flow, could have availability for some more smaller projects for the year if needed

Garden Report

Presenter: Taylor,

Topics: HGG Update & Plot inspections

- HGG
 - First round of pyrethrum sprayed a couple weeks go
 - Next spray will be neem on or around 5/10
 - Jeff was notified of some whiteflies on tomatoes by a member
 - Reminded of bi-weekly spraying, Sarah to help out with communications out to members, and some discussion had on best way to put notices up in the garden itself for members as well
- Plot inspections
 - First round of plot inspections went well and seemed to be well received by members!
 - We will have one surrender due to neglected bed
- Jeff is getting additional quotes on mowing options that may save us some more money in operating expenses

Membership Report

Presenter: Anna S.

Topic: Membership Update

- 2 new affiliates
- 1 surrender
- 22 waitlist

Secretary Report

Presenter: Jacob

Topic: Website Updates, Master Gardener talk descriptions

- Master Gardener talk descriptions received have all been updated
- Will be uploading the April minutes
- Continuing to work on another info/education section on the site for supporting the Healthy Gardening Guidelines effort

Communications Report

Presenter: Sarah

Topics: May newsletter, Library

- Master Gardener talk for plant swap and HGG updates are primary topics of the May newsletter
- Anyone that has nature, gardening, etc. books that are looking for a new home for them can be donated to the little library outside the front garden gate. Especially any family/kid friendly ones

Possible Greenhouse Replacement Discussion

- DCGO received an email from Parks & Rec that the city council has potential interest in helping replace greenhouses/revamp the greenhouse and barn area. Mayor is apparently involved/interested

- Ann will be updating Cyndi's proposal from 2022 for the request, the city will help in getting a specialist in grant applications to assist in raising funds
- DCGO Board is tasked with coming up with a list of wishes, wants, and other possible value DCGO and the city could get out of such a project to help with the proposal
- Ann moved to create a special committee for the purpose of this proposal (and hopefully project) Richard seconded and passed unanimously.
 - Committee to consist of Ann, Pam, Richard, and Art

Meeting Adjourned: 8:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacob Hayes
DCGO Recording Secretary