

## DCGO BOD Meeting - August 6, 2024

Attending: John Kriek, Richard Osterholtz, Cyndi McGill, Ann Bone, Anna Schoenbaechler, Jeff Leech

Cyndi called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Cyndi asked if there were any changes/corrections to the July minutes. None were suggested. Cyndi moved that they be accepted as written with Richard seconding the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved.

Vice-Chair - Dave Siegler reported that the YTD Harvest total as of 7/31/24 was 1,575 lbs. All the pantry beds are being tended; Galina will be out the month of September and Dave will tend her pantry plots. Dave will await contact from Foodwell Alliance to provide our data for their reporting.

Membership - Cyndi reported that no current report was available, but that she believes that we added two new members.

Treasurer - John Kriieck reported that we have in excess of \$29K in the bank. He presented a new format pie chart detailing the sources of our income. Our CD's will be up for renewal in September, subject to whatever projects we will have going on that may require funds.

Greenhouse - Richard Osterholtz reported that kale, bok choy, cabbage, chard, broccoli and collards have been seeded in preparation for Fall planting. Cyndi stated that we have no formal Fall Plant Sale planned but those plants not used by the Pantry Beds could be offered for sale and the next Master Gardener Talk. John reported that plant sales are \$4,000 ahead of last year.

Garden - Dave Siegler presented several options to replace the failing split rail fence separating the pollinator beds and the orchard. Each of the two fence sections is 50' long. Options include split rail, pickets, lattice and solid fencing in either wood or vinyl. After discussion, the BOD approved replacing both fence sections with treated wood picket pre-built fencing panels. Dave will get price estimates. It was agreed that the Master Gardeners will clear the plant material out of the way prior to fence installation 10/29 and 10/30, there being no Georgia football game that weekend. John, Richard, Jeff and Dave volunteered to help with the installation. Richard suggested renting an augur.

Jeff reported that our mowing crew will probably stop mowing in late October. Jeff reported that he has contacted Adrian Security Co. at the suggestion of Gabe Neps. Adrian can install 3 new gates with external keypads and auto-locking springs for a total cost of \$4,500, well less than any other vendor. It is not known if the locks are battery powered or mechanical. Jeff reported that Parks and Rec (Gabe and Rachel) understand our security needs. Cyndi has already submitted this project for City funding at Rachel's request but with a \$10K estimate. Cyndi will

ask Rachel if we can do the project now and get all or partial reimbursement later from the City. Ann stated that the City may have to be the entity ordering the work as they did years earlier with the deer fence. Jeff added that code changing is an easy process for these gates. Richard motioned and Dave seconded that we accept Adrian Security Co.'s bid pending City approval. All approved.

Social - Cyndi reported for Ann W. that the alcohol permit has been approved for the Annual Meeting.

Community Outreach - Cyndi reported for Kame that all continues as usual.

New Business -

Bylaws changes to propose for member approval:

1. Article III, Membership and Garden Plot Allotment - First part, third sentence to be changed from, "One **member of the Board** will be designated as "Main Garden Manager"..." to "One **Board position** will be designated....".
2. Article III, Membership and Garden Plot Allotment, Greenhouse - Second sentence to be changed from, "One **Board member** will be designated as "Greenhouse Manager"..." to "One **Board position** will be.....".
3. Article IV, Board of Directors - Third par, second sentence to be changed from, "A current Director succeeds the Chair." to "A current **or past** Director .....".
4. Article IV, Board of Directors, Powers and Duties - Eighth par, to be changed from, " The Chairman of the Board presents an annual report and budget for the next year **to members in August at the membership meeting....**" to "The Chairman of the Board presents an annual report and budget for the next year **at the annual membership meeting....**"

John Kriek motioned that the changes be approved, seconded by Dave Siegler. Unanimously approved.

Rod Pittman memorial - Richard reported that the building permit for the structure has been submitted to the City and approved. He is waiting to hear from Gabe about which vendor the Dity will hire to do the concrete work. Once the concrete pad is poured, we will schedule a Work Day to assemble the pergola. Richard estimates that it will require 4 to 5 people for 1 to 2 days.

Mitch McGill memorial - Cyndi reported that no permit is required for this project.

Newsletter articles - Ann Bone reported that she will include the recent GRLZ - ATL event, Eleanor Geddes' article about using cilantro as a companion plant to control pests, a request for no further plastic pot donations, the proposed Bylaw changes and August Garden of the Month (congrats to Anna Schoenbaechler!) in the next Newsletter.

2024-2025 Slate of Officers for the DCGO BOD - Cyndi presented a proposed slate of candidates:

- Chairperson - Ann Bone, whose role will include maintenance of the DCGO website.
- Vice-Chairperson and Recording Secretary - Pamela Robinson, whose role will combine two BOD positions and who will coordinate the Pantry Bed Team and liaison with the Harvest Team. John mentioned that this combination of duties is allowed under non-profit BOD best practices as it conforms to keeping the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer position separate. Cyndi expressed thanks to Dave Sielger for all his work as Vice-Chairperson for the 2023-24 year and thanked him for his willingness to continue volunteering at DCGO with future projects.
- Treasurer - John Kriek will continue. John asked that "Maintain accounting records" be added to the Treasurer's job description.
- Membership - Cyndi stated that several members were being considered to fill this position and asked if Anna Schoenbeachler would consider taking this spreadsheet-heavy responsibility. Anna very graciously accepted the position. Cheers all around!
- Communications (formerly Community Outreach) - Kame Awokoya has agreed to continue in this position. Cyndi expressed that this renamed position would also take on the responsibility of creating and distributing the semi-monthly newsletter.
- Garden - Co-managers will be Jeff Leech and Taylor Levinson. They will split duties with Jeff seeing to the irrigation system, mowing crew and garden infrastructure and Taylor focusing on Work Day projects, member engagement and education about best practices in a concentrated growing environment. John suggested that their duties be documented in that position's job description.
- Greenhouse - Richard Osterholtz will continue in this position.
- Social - Ann Wright has agreed to continue in this position.
- Plant Sale Director - Cyndi McGill will tackle this new BOD position which will assume all coordination and directing duties relating to the Spring Plant Sale.

Jeff Leech motioned that the slate be approved and Richard Osterholtz seconded the motion. All approved.

Garden Mission - Cyndi stated that DCGO currently has more money than ever in savings. She stated that we will never be able to accumulate enough money to replace one or both greenhouses and that we will continue to receive and work with proposed community projects befitting our mission. She asked that BOD members consider what else we can do with our resources to benefit our community.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bone  
Recording Secretary