

DCGO BOD Minutes, September 10, 2024

Attending: Cyndi McGill, Eleanor Geddes, Jeff Leech, Dave Siegler, Richard Osterholtz, Ann Bone, Ann Wright, Kame Awokoya, Pamela Robinson, John KriECK, Taylor Levinson

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

Cyndi asked if there were any additions or corrections to the August minutes. None were made. Dave motioned and Richard seconded that the August minutes be approved as submitted. Unanimously approved.

Vice-Chair Report - Dave reported that this past week's harvest totalled 78 lbs, bringing our YTD harvest donations to 1,900 lbs. He reported that the Pantry Bed Team is stable. Faye Roane is stepping down as Harvest Team Leader and Dave will assume those duties. Dave is updating FoodWell Alliance on our donation totals.

Membership - Eleanor reported two new members in September - Michelle Badlu (414) and Chirstina Haas (612). There have been no resignations in Sept and the Wait List stands at 15. Eleanor also reported that we gained two new members in August - Brian Bonser (501) and Kelsey Scott (602). There were three resignations in August.

Treasurer - John noted that we currently have about \$28K in the bank and are estimating \$1,500 will be needed to pay for the new garden fence. He presented pie charts detailing the sources of our revenue to date. John will meet with Pamela to explain the data he tracks for his reports. John recommended that we decrease our cash on hand to about \$5K and that we invest additional cash now on hand in additional CD's to earn income. Our current CD's are nearing maturation and he recommended renewing them. Jeff stated that the mowing expenses may cease as of mid October but he will keep John posted. Namecheap, the owner of our domain name, has been updated to send renewal notices to the dcgotreasurer@gmail.com mailbox. Ann W. indicated that the \$2,300 allocated for the Annual Meeting can be reduced to \$1,000.

Greenhouse - Richard reported that the pergola structure has been demolished and that he is awaiting info from Gabe Neps (Dunwoody Parks and Rec) regarding when the new slab will be poured. Richard also reported that the requested veggies for Fall planting in the Pantry Beds are ready and that extras will be offered for sale before and after the September and October Master Gardener Talks.

Garden - Dave reported that we have settled on a 3.5' picket fence to replace the split rail fence at the garden. Total cost for materials will be around \$1,250. Renting an auger and other supplies will bring the project up to \$2,500. Dave motioned and Richard seconded that the BOD approved this expenditure. All approved. Richard reported that there will be an all-volunteer MG workday on Thursday, 10/24 to clear the fence construction area and lay roofing shingles down to help suppress weeds along the fenceline. The DCGO volunteer workdays to install the fence

posts and build the fence will be 10/26 from 9 am till noon and 10/27 from 2 pm till 5 pm. We will need 6 or 7 volunteers each day.

Jeff reported that the City has approved paying for new locking mechanisms on all 3 garden gates. It was later determined that the entire front gate must be replaced at an additional cost of \$2,400. This info has been submitted to the City and approval is expected soon. Jeff will coordinate with the vendor to install the locking systems on the two side gates ASAP. Ann will notify the membership that the front gate will be temporarily unusable and that members are to use only the side gate until the new front gate is installed. Jeff reported that there are 3-4 beds in need of rebuilding. Jeff will ask the lock vendor for written instructions for changing the lock codes in the future.

Social - Ann W. reported that all RSVP's for the Annual Meeting are due by 9/18. We have over 50 at this time. She will order chairs once we have a final tally.

Communications - Kame reported that all is normal and that she is providing updates to the City about our events on a monthly basis.

New Business -

Cyndi reported that Rachel (Dunwoody P&R Director) has requested that all non-profits give an annual update to the City Council either in person or electronically. Cyndi is currently preparing the Annual Report for our members and will submit an "Executive Overview" powerpoint version to Rachel.

Kingsley Elementary has requested an instructor for 2 20-minute sessions to be presented at their STEM night 9/19. The BOD decided that this is not a match for us at this time. Cyndi will decline the invitation.

Dunwoody resident Michele Mogilski has donated several dozen potted patio plants to DCGO for future sale. Cyndi will send her a tax receipt letter thanking her.

Cyndi showed the BOD proposed elevations of the "Shade Shack" to be constructed at the rear of the Garden in memory of Mitch McGill. Per Gabe Neps, no permit will be required for its construction. The current benches don't look salvageable, but the Boy Scout plaques will be retained and reinstalled. Cyndi estimated the total cost to be under \$2,000 to be funded by donations already received in memory of Mitch. Cyndi stated that we hope to include a solar-powered ceiling fan. Richard requested a 2nd fan for the Rod Pittman memorial structure at the Greenhouse complex. Cyndi has reached out repeatedly to relatives of Steven Fry regarding the bad state of the cobb bench installed in his memory years ago. No success so far.

Cyndi directed current BOD members to set up transition meetings with their replacements.

Newsletter items include a "Last Call" for Annual Meeting RSVP's, info on the upcoming fence workdays, September garden tips, Garden of the Month (bed 100) and info on the plants to be offered for sale at upcoming MG Talks.

Cyndi requested that the Soil3 discount code info be added to the Home Page of our website.

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bone
DCGO Recording Secretary