

Minutes, DCGO BOD meeting, 2/6/24

Attending: Jeff Leech, John Kriek, Dave Siegler, Anna Schoenbaechler, Eleanor Geddes, Ann Wright, Cyndi McGill, Ann Bone, Kame Awokoya

Cyndi called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM

Secretary Ann B. asked for corrections to the January minutes already emailed to all BOD members. No corrections were requested and the January minutes were unanimously approved.

Vice-Chairperson Dave S. reported that the YTD harvest from the Pantry Beds is 51 lbs. He will request that Faye Roane add him to the harvest report text list to receive updates.

Membership Chair Eleanor G. announced 11 new members:

Yenifer Rios	#111
Amelia Tomasulo	#112
Bri Williams	#115
Jordan Thatcher	#116
Jackie Yong	#200
Joan Blumenfield	#410
Beth Paschetto	#412
Rob Nathan	#505
Taylor Levinson	#511
Karina Siegel	#512
Eric Goodell	#513

She also reported 3 resignations, 2 open plots, 2 Surrender Notices sent, 0 names on the current wait list and that she conducted a new member tour for several new folks in January. She plans a new-member tour for 2/17. Two members have still not paid their dues.

Treasurer John Kriek updated the BOD on the receipt of over \$3,800 in renewals/dues in January and that our current bank balances total approx. \$22,400. He requested 2024 budget needs from the GARDEN, CHAIRPERSON and VICE-CHAIRPERSON by the March BOD meeting.

Cyndi reported that she was contacted by Kathy Hanna, a close friend of recently-deceased DCGO founder Don Converse to inform us that several "friends of Don" plan to make donations to DCGO in his memory.

John further reported that he recommends we utilize the credit card app from Wells Fargo along with at least one WF card reader device to accept credit and debit card payments for future sales. Card numbers can be directly entered via the phone app or via the reader. Readers cost \$110 each. It is TBD whether one reader can be used by multiple phone apps.

Garden Chair Jeff L. reported that the MLK Day of Service project was a huge success with 6 plots being completely rebuilt and the entire garden cleaned up. The energy was wonderful! Eleanor is not aware of any membership inquiries received from the volunteers. Jeff will gather estimates to replace the fallen split rail fence and pursue scheduling this as a work project.

Social Chair Ann W. asked who would be the new city contact for party/alcohol permits. Cyndi suggested contacting Kate Borden. Ann will coordinate the permitting, tables, food and supplies for the Wine and Cheese party 4/26 but will be out of the country for the actual event. Ann B. volunteered to help with the set up and receipt of the goodies.

Community Outreach Chair Kame A. is double-checking the February Master Gardener Talk email to make sure it is sent. She has the event posted on online event sites. She will also make sure that future MG Talk notices do not include a "come early for plant sale" tagline. Kame asked if any events outside the MG Talks are scheduled for May or June so she can include them in the upcoming Dunwoody Digest. Kame has secured a front-page color ad in the Dunwoody Crier for the issue immediately preceding the Spring Plant Sale. We are offered the same coverage in the Sandy Springs Crier for an additional \$110. This was unanimously approved.

New Business, Cyndi M. presented the following:

- 1) Volunteer Teams for 2024 are set and will be distributed to Team Leaders ASAP. Anna S. will assist the Garden and Greenhouse Teams to arrange volunteer opportunities, especially early in the year, to support member enthusiasm and buy-in for these tasks. Eleanor suggested that the Pantry Bed Team set up a "backup team" to keep PB's filled and tended. Ann B. explained that well-intended "help" has previously caused hurt feelings and PB Tender "resignations" because of lack of coordination and the perceptions of "stepped on toes". Ann will coordinate with Dave about PB procedures.
- 2) FoodWell Alliance grants - no announcements yet.
- 3) Greenhouse volunteer Mika Oda is leaving. Cyndi is coordinating a "Thank You and Good Bye" party for Monday, 2/12 at 11 AM. Cyndi will present Mika with a gift, we will plant a Japanese maple tree in Mika's honor and have cupcakes!
- 4) The Dunwoody Nature Center MGEV's would like to present additional classes in the Barn. Everyone agreed that adding additional classes would be great and we would be happy to help publicize them. DNC would need to reserve the Barn and coordinate their talks on their own at this point.
- 5) Kate Edmonds at Dunwoody Elem. School has requested that DCGO partner with them on a "learning garden" at the school, requiring about 15 hours a month. The BOD decided that this sounds more like a request for MGEV's than a project for DCGO. Cyndi will reply as such.
- 6) Snap! Dragon's Garden will take place 3/23 from 11 AM till 3 PM. We will schedule a garden clean up prior to then, perhaps a Garden Workday for the GARDEN Team. Cyndi asked the City to include some of the dinosaurs displayed by Dunwoody resident Lisa

Torres and they agreed. Lisa can provide extension cords for several inflatable dino's, to be powered from the shed behind the garden. DINO-WOODY!!

- 7) Spring Plant Sale is set for 4/26 through 4/28. Ann W. will be away but will have the alcohol permit, tables and all wine and cheese ordered and set for delivery. Ann B. and Cyndi will handle the setup.
- 8) Newsletter will feature our new "Garden of the Month" program (thank you Dave S. for the great sign!), receipt of 3 new bags of Soil3, photos from the MLK Day of Service and more. Ann B., Eleanor and Dave will meet at the garden 2/29 at 11AM to select the February Garden of the Month winner!

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 PM.

Next BOD meeting will be March 5 at 6:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bone  
DCGO Secretary