

DCGO Board Meeting December 5, 2023

Attending: Dave Siegler, Ann Wright, Richard Osterholtz, John Kriek, Cyndi McGill, Ann Bone

Cyndi called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM

Dave motioned that the November minutes be approved as written, seconded by Ann W., approved by all.

Vice-chair - Dave reported that the 2023 harvest stands at 2208 lbs YTD plus pumpkins. He will be meeting with Faye Roane next week to continue his transition into PB coordinating.

Membership - Cyndi reported for Eleanor that the 2024 renewal system is up and running. Renewals are rolling in. Renewal deadline has been extended through 1/15/24 due to late tweeks to the renewal system.

Treasurer - John projected a surplus of \$4,000 at present. He requested preliminary budgets from all teams at the January BOD meeting. Please separate "must haves" from "would like to's". Ann reminded Dave of the Pantry Bed budget for purchasing organic fertilizer (Garden Tone) for the PB tenders. Cyndi will be separating the Soil3 usage and costs between the garden and the greenhouse teams. Cyndi requested that Ann locate and forward email confirmations from the City that the water is being billed to the City.

Greenhouse - Richard is pleased with the cleaned up condition of the greenhouses. The missing Harvest scales were found! All winter planting has been done, although we have suffered some squirrel damage. Richard asked all to contribute to the list of plant needs for the Spring Plant Sale. Seeds will be ordered in January.

Richard reported on a project to upgrade the irrigation inside the GH to drip irrigation with solenoid valves for each planting bed and timers. He estimates about \$750 for 8 zones. The prototype bed nearest the GH refrigerator is working well. Richard would like Volunteer Coordinator Anna Schoenbechler to coordinate 2-3 volunteers in late January to help with installation.

Garden - Cyndi reported for Jeff that there was no workday due to few signups. Garden cleanup work has been rescheduled to take place on MLK Day of Service.

Cyndi reported that Galina Voronkova (bed 411) has discovered root knot nematodes in her bed and is asking to not pay membership since she can't use her bed for 2024 while she solarizes the soil. Cyndi will suggest that we have MLK Day of Service volunteers completely empty and dispose of all the soil in 410 for Galina to refill with Soil 3 or her preferred material.

Social - Ann W. reported that the refreshments for MLK Day of Service will be water and coffee. She will be out of town and needs others to pick up the items at the Barn and take them to the garden.

Community Outreach - Cyndi reported for Kame that the MLK activities are being publicized. We will have up to 60 slots in the park. Dave is adding this to the DCGO calendar. Ann is sending a link to the signups in each newsletter.

New Business - Cyndi has submitted applications for both the \$1500 and the \$10K Foodwell Alliance grant programs. If awarded, the \$1500 grant will be applied toward Soil 3, the \$10K grant toward greenhouse improvements. Awards are expected to be announced in January.

Per Art Simon, his prize volunteer, Mika Oda, is returning to Japan in late February. It was suggested that a Japanese maple and plaque memorializing Mika's 4 years of volunteering be planted within the GH complex. Cyndi also suggested that we present Mika with a framed Thank You letter and a cake.

City of Dunwoody employee David Allen apparently approved an Eagle Scout project constructing a path through the "arboretum" leading to the GH complex back gate. DCGO has replied that we have no interest in being accessed through the back gate.

2024 Spring Plant Sale planning - it was discussed having the sale during the last full weekend of April, 4/26-28.

Secretary - Ann B. reported that she will cover membership renewal, the MLK Day of Service signup link and highlight the Pantry Bed and Harvest process.

Dave suggested that we consider having a "Garden of the Month" award with the winner being recognized with a bright whirligig in their bed and a photo and interview in the newsletter.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bone
Secretary, DCGO