

DCOG Meeting Minutes – February

Date: February 4, 2025

Attendees: Richard Osterholtz, Taylor Levinson, John Krieck, Ann Bone, Anna Schoenbachler, Jeff Leach, Pam Robinson

Call to Order: 6:30 PM by Ann Bone

Chairman's Report

Presenter: Ann Topics: Review January minutes, MLK Update

- January minutes were read by Pam, accepted by Ann, and seconded by Richard.
 - **MLK Update:** Due to cold weather on January 20th, the MLK Day of Service was postponed to Saturday, February 1st. Approximately 25 people attended, including a large group from Jack and Jill. The team accomplished the following:
 - Demolished the shade shack (saved mementos; the leaf table is stored in the barn).
 - Organized tomato cages.
 - Rebuilt four garden beds.
 - Cleaned 15–20 beds.
 - Removed leaves.
 - Placed shingles around the pantry beds lining the fence.
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Vice Chair Report

Presenter: Pam Topics; PB and harvest update, spring planting list

- Harvests typically occur every other week in the winter. Due to weather-related cancellations, the first harvest of the year will be on **February 5th**.
 - According to David, a few items in the garden are ready for harvest, and the greenhouse has lettuce and peppers available.
 - Pam will send an email to the pantry bed team to see what they want to plant and offer suggestions.
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Treasurer's Report

Presenter: John

- Distributed detailed financial reports with graphs. DCGO remains financially secure.
 - **Dues collected:** \$2,000
 - **Bank balance:** \$28,000
 - John will prepare the **2025 budget** with input from Jeff, Ann, and Cindy.
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Membership Report

Presenter: Anna Topics: Renewal update, membership update

- **Membership status:**
 - **79** renewals
 - **9** new members
 - **7** open plots, **7** waitlisted
 - Other memberships forfeited
 - **Forfeiture notices sent to:**
Jordon Thatch, Shon Medley, Heid Gath, Jenny Lee, Rob Lee, Donna & Justin Kay.
 - **Reason for forfeitures:** Lack of time to maintain plots.
 - **Action item:** MailChimp needs to be updated with new garden members' names.
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Greenhouse Report

Presenter: Richard Topics: Greenhouse update, electrical issue, propane, State Farm Volunteer Day

- A **minor electrical issue** in the greenhouse has been resolved.
 - **New purchase:** Art bought a **\$150 cultivator** for use in beds, which will be useful during workdays.
 - **Propane:** Refilled to 70% (heats both the greenhouse and barn).
 - **Weather impact:** Some plants were lost due to the cold, but **lettuce and peppers** remain abundant.
 - **Upcoming planting:** Starting to grow **peppers and eggplants** for the annual plant sale.
 - **Volunteer group:** A team from **State Farm (10–30 people)** is interested in volunteering in late March. Ann will coordinate potential projects (e.g., assembling fence kits).
 - **New volunteers:** Linda and Verna have joined the greenhouse team.
 - **Temporary absence:** Richard will be out of the country from **Feb 11–March 5**. Volunteers will maintain greenhouse operations.
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Garden Report

Presenter: Jeff - Topic: Garden update, water update

- The city **shut off the water in the garden** during the cold spell. Jeff will follow up to have it restored.
- Ordered **two bags of soil** and will purchase **two more**.
- Removed a **leaking rain barrel** that was blocking the walkway.

Presenter: Taylor

- Shared a **proposed design** for the **Community Garden entrance**, featuring:
 - An **edible garden element**
 - **Seasonal color plants**
 - **Native species** (including a **serviceberry tree**)
 - **Retaining existing amsonia (eastern bluestar) and daffodils**
- **Next steps:**

- Use the **MG workday** to clean out the area and repot plants.
 - Research **Kingsley Family Farm** as a plant supplier.
 - Taylor will create a **plant list** for budget planning and submit it to John.
 - **Project timeline TBD.**
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Communications Report

Presenter: Kame Topics: February Newsletter, Feb Garden of the month

- Ann announced that **Yennifer Rios's plot** has been named **Garden of the Month**. This will be featured in the next newsletter.
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Events Report

Presenter: Ann W.

- **No new updates.**
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2025 Plant Sale Report

Presenter: Cyndi

- The original plant sale date (**May 2–4**) was deemed too late in the season.
 - **New date: April 11–13**
 - Cyndi will coordinate with Richard to assess how the date change impacts planting schedules.
 - The **Master Gardener talk for April** and **Wine & Cheese event** will also need rescheduling.
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Miscellaneous

- **Marketing materials:**
 - Cyndi proposed discontinuing full-color brochures for DCGO.
 - She will explore using **seed-infused bookmarks** with a **QR code** linking to the website for garden information.
 - **Gate code update:**
 - Jeff is documenting the process to **change the gate code independently**.
 - This update is expected within **two weeks**.
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Meeting Adjourned: 7:57 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Pam Robinson

DCGO Recording Secretary