

MINUTES  
May 4, 2021  
DUNWOODY COMMUNITY GARDEN BOARD MEETING

MEETING DATE: May 4, 2021

ATTENDEES: Cyndi McGill, Tielke Baker, Ann Bone, Bill Grossman, Shelia Wilder, Teresa Hennessee, Art Simon, and Jeff Leech

The meeting was called to order by Tielke Baker at 6:34 pm est

Minutes from the last BOD meeting held April 6 meeting were presented. After presentation to the BOD, a few corrections were made. Motion made by Cyndi to accept the Minutes as amended. Motion was seconded by Sheila and the Minutes were unanimously accepted.

Old Business – no old business

Membership Update – presented by Cyndi McGill

- There are 31 persons on the wait list for membership to DCGO
- We added one Affiliate Member, Jim Traicoff.
- Cyndi will draft a letter to Jim Traicoff confirming he is an Affiliate Member and give him the code to access the main garden and provide information on the Greenhouse
- Cyndi, Tielke, and Jeff walked through the garden this morning. They identified approximately 18 plots that appear to be untended. Cyndi to draft a letter to those 18 members, per our by-laws, for action to be taken for their untended plots.

Plant Sale Update – presented by Cyndi McGill

- Best plant sale
- 34 volunteers signed up and provided 300 hours of service over six days. These numbers do not include the hours that Tielke, Art and the greenhouse provided.
- Items that worked well (to be utilized for future sales):
  - Wooden signage for Tomatoes, Shrubs, Bushes, Annuals, Perennials generated by Tielke
  - Pre-check table saved a lot of time at the check-out area, no bottleneck
  - Staging, placement of plants prior to sale
  - Everything was priced and labeled
  - Enthusiastic volunteers
  - Shed sale worked well
  - Books – sales of books did better once the books were moved outside of the Barn
  - Music was great, made the sale more of a party atmosphere
  - Having wagons available for people to use for their plant selections
  - Leadership was fabulous
- Areas for Change:
  - Keep plants looking as pretty and healthy as possible and rotate out inventory as it is depleted
  - Rotate check-out table so the sun isn't making reading the iPad difficult
  - Use of boxes vs plastic bags was great at the check-out table for patrons to use to transport their plant purchases

- Need more one-dollar bills at check-out table
- Improve outreach for donor plants
- Could have sold a lot more seasonal plants / annuals
- Better communication (earlier request) to Parks and Rec department to request rocks to throw down in areas that were muddy (between concrete and white picket fence for the butterfly garden). Rocks prevent slip hazard for the water drainage and mud
- We had fewer variety of tomatoes this year than last, but sold more (quantity)
- Sold out Hosta / Hellebore (may need more for next year)
- Requested plants, creeping jenny, Tall verbena, and black eyed susan. Need to secure for next year

From Tielke Baker – Thanks to all the BOD for all their hard work to make the sale such a success

Treasurer's Report – presented by Bill Grossman

- We have \$8,871 in our checking account . . . \$500 in savings and another \$800 in PayPal

Greenhouse Update – presented by Art Simon

- Volunteers have put in a lot of hours
- What can we do to recognize the greenhouse volunteers? Art to think about a gift for all. Suggestion to give them an Apron with our logo. Bring in a lite lunch for the volunteers and present them with the Aprons.
- Remaining plants available for sale this weekend during Master Gardener session. Occurs the same weekend as the Dunwoody Arts Festival within the park. Should be a lot of foot traffic over the weekend.
- Request from Captain Planet for plants
- Bi annuals must be planted this year for next year's sale, also planting for the charity beds

Main Garden Update – presented by Jeff Leech

- 18 plots appear to be untended
- City dropped a bunch of new gravel in the main garden parking lot and spread it out.
- Focus on entry to the garden, how can we improve the area leading up to the main entrance? Jeff to explore options and present to the BOD
- Can we put some bird houses outside the fenced in area of the main garden?
- Bat houses would be a good idea to keep down mosquitoes
- Could we consider a solar powered bird bath?

Social Update – presented by Shelia Wilder

- No social events until the fall
- After discussion it was decided that we would not do a wine/cheese event in the fall
- Fall Plant Sale dates were determined, Saturday/Sunday, September 11 and 12<sup>th</sup>
- Master Gardener presentation (subject: landscape design) scheduled for Saturday, Sept 11, same day as Fall Plant sale
- Annual meeting selected for Sunday October 10<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm social gathering, 5:00 pm annual meeting, and 6:00 pm food served

Shed Sale Update – presented by Shelia Wilder

- Much more successful than I thought possible. Don't think we need to do again for another 3 years
- After this weekend, shed items that do not sell will be donated to goodwill

- For future shed sales, request gardening related items from the members for the sale.

Community Outreach – presented by Ann Bone

- Throughout the sale Ann asked patrons how they heard about the sale. A lot of people saw it on Facebook.
- Prior to the sale, Ann had notified all the regular media outlets, The Crier, Dunwoody website, and other local papers. (are there other media outlets that I missed?)
- We had sent information out to the Crier before the stated deadline for inclusion in their paper giving plenty of time to notify the public of our sale. However, there was nothing in any of their publications for weeks leading up to our sale. Ann contacted the Crier and expressed disappointment. A reporter from the Crier came out the first day of the sale and took pictures. It was covered (on the front page) the following day.
- Separately, on the front page of The Crier, there was a small peel off sticker advertising the Dunwoody Art Festival (to be held in Brook Run part May 8 and 9). It was clever advertising. We might want to consider utilizing that next year for our plant sale

Other – from Tielke Baker

- Per the city of Dunwoody, we need two dates (during calendar year 2022) to invite the community to open DCGO Board meetings. After discussion two dates were selected: BOD meeting in February and October, dates of Feb 1, 2022, and October 4, 2022. Tielke will share this information with the city.
- Master Gardener session this weekend, May 8, volunteers to work the plant sale in conjunction with Master Gardener session include Jeff Leech, Tielke Baker, Teresa Hennessee, and Cindy McGill

Assignment for next BOD meeting – each BOD member to bring new ideas to generate revenue for DCGO.

With no further business, motion made by Jeff and seconded by Teresa to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Teresa Hennessee  
Recording Secretary