

MINUTES
October 6, 2020
DUNWOODY COMMUNITY GARDEN BOARD MEETING

MEETING DATE: October 6, 2020

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

The meeting was called to order by Tielke Baker at 6:31 pm est

Minutes from the last BOD meeting held Sept 1, 2020, were presented. After review by the BOD, a few corrections were made. Cyndi McGill made a motion to accept the Minutes as amended. Motion was seconded by Ann Bone and unanimously approved.

Greenhouse update – presented by Art Simon

DCGO sold plants to Well Food Alliance; however, in order to get paid, we need to submit a W-9. Ann filled out the form and sent it on to Flannery at Well Food Alliance. Waiting on a check in the amount of \$500 to be issued and mailed to us.

We gave about 200 plants to 3 different community gardens in the area . . . Malachi's Storehouse across the street at St. Pat's church, Edna at Peace Garden at a local church, and Luke Kelly from the Brookhaven Community Garden

It is possible that Flannery from Well Food Alliance may purchase some additional plants

Captain Planet said they would purchase some plants, but nothing forthcoming as of today

We have plenty more plants available in the greenhouse for members to purchase for their own beds, to use in the charity beds and to be given away to other local community gardens

Financial Report – presented by Bill Grossman

We are at the lowest amount of funds for DCGO in several years. Total of current available funds in both our checking and savings accounts is \$2,944.

We had large expenses this past month of \$2,480 to Kapp Concepts for work on our new website and a big check to the city for \$8,000 for the deer fencing. Both were major expenditures that were necessary.

Bill does not think that he has received the \$500 check from Well Food Alliance, but he hasn't checked the mail box in the past week. He will check and if the payment is there, he will deposit it into our account.

Bill advised that he had some small problem accessing PayPal. He used the old password and answered the old security questions and was able to access the account. There was approximately \$400 in PayPal. He has transferred that to our account. Cyndi to work with Bill and look into why he was having difficulty accessing PayPal. Bill should be receiving notices to the Treasury email when payments have been sent to PayPal. Bill did advise that the \$400 funds were prior to the "go live" date of the new website. If there are any other issues with PayPal and technology, Bill to contact Cyndi to help resolve.

A new debit card was issued to Tielke Baker as new Chairman. Ann Bone was requested to keep her card and use as necessary by the BOD in her role as Community Outreach.

Social Events – presented by Cyndi McGill

Last night the cub scouts came by the Greenhouse. The "lions" youth to kindergarten, both girls and boys. Cub scouts are co-ed now. In addition, the "bobcats" and "tigers" (7-year-old and up) also came last night. Both the younger and older cub scouts helped dig up and harvest sweet potatoes from the charity beds at the greenhouse complex as well as pot up a plant each (space

cabbage) to take home. They had a really good time and were quite engaged in the process. There were a total of 31 attendees (adults and kids). Their Troup Leader thanked us for the time and volunteered to bring the kids back to help out in the future. Pictures of the event were taken by Tielke. Tielke to use a few when he sends out the bi-monthly notice to the members. We need to send to the City of Dunwoody a list of our new Directors. Cyndi to handle this.

Membership report – Mike Hayward’s computer crashed and he lost the files. He is attempting to reconstruct; therefore, no report was available to be presented. Looking at back up options going forward.

New Business – Tielke Baker

Tielke had requested the Board to look at ideas to add more charity beds to the main garden. One of the ideas suggested was to move all the charity beds from the main garden area to the Greenhouse complex. Benefit of this move would have all the charity beds in one location for the charity bed team to maintain instead of two locations. It would also help the harvest team as they would be harvesting from one location. Art would still be in charge of the charity beds in the greenhouse; however current charity bed team members would be assigned current and new beds within the greenhouse complex.

We cannot increase the footprint of the main garden. We can only expand any member beds within the fenced in area of the community garden. The orchard is off-limits.

Tielke presented a map (see attached) indicating current charity beds in pink and proposed new member beds to be created in green. We currently have 20 charity beds in the main garden. Reallocating the charity beds to member beds and the addition of the proposed new member beds would add 29 new member beds to the main garden.

Discussion was held about adding new member beds near the current berry patch to the left of the main garden area. It was determined that we have never been able to harvest any of the fruit from the berry patch. The birds and squirrels seem to get to the fruit before we can harvest. It was determined that in the many years of the berry patch, it has never been able to be utilized as a food source for Malachi’s Storehouse, nor was it likely to ever be able to be utilized for that purpose. We could extend additional new member beds to include the current berry patch area.

It was suggested that the communal herb garden (which has not been utilized very much) be moved to the greenhouse complex as well. Another suggestion would be to utilize the very narrow charity beds (only 18 inches wide) to the right of the main garden adjacent to the experimental garden as an area for the communal herb garden. However, someone else suggested to use those narrow beds as member beds. These few beds would not be the standard 8 x 4 ft. member bed size, but perhaps something with similar square footage, like a 10 ft. x 18-inch bed. No guarantee that someone would want this size member bed.

It was determined that this would be a long term project, taking perhaps 18 months to integrate. One of the caveats of this plan would be that new charity beds would have to be in place at the greenhouse complex before any of the charity beds at the main garden could be released as new member beds. Anticipate six months to transition to complete new charity beds.

Tielke has a meeting with the city next week to discuss our proposed plan.

Cost: lumber prices have doubled in the past 3 months. Pressure treated lumber is hard to come by.

Bill suggested using different type of materials for the member beds, perhaps composite material if pressure treated pine is hard to find. Bill to get back to the BOD with suggestions of other materials to use.

Art suggested perhaps securing a grant from the city to assist with the funding of all these new beds.

Bill made a motion to put together a site plan to bring all the charity beds from the main garden to

the greenhouse complex complete with budget. Ann seconded the motion. Motion was passed unanimously to move forward with said plan. Tielke to present site plan to the BOD.

All proposed new member beds in the main garden would have to have PVC piping laid for a water source. Art and Tielke to work on this phase.

Motion was made by Cyndi to build 9 new member beds in the main garden (based on Tielke's drawing, attached), seconded by Teresa, and unanimously approved.

We will need someone to run this project after a site plan has been presented and approved. Art suggested Tielke to be the Project Manager.

Compost needed at the main garden. Art to make the request for the compost. Brent and Art to look at a possible new location for the compost heap. The city does not want to have the compost on the right hand side of the main garden. That area to be reserved for parking. One of the suggested areas for the placement of the compost heap is to be on the left hand side of the main garden outside of the fence area, where the patch of Cana lilies is now located. If this site is chosen, Tielke to move the Cana lilies to another location. Brent Walker of the City of Dunwoody parks and recreation department will look at different options for bins (concrete, railroad ties) for the compost area. Nothing determined so far.

With no further business Art made a motion and seconded by Cyndi to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm est.

Respectfully submitted

Teresa Hennessee
Recording Secretary