

MINUTES
September 1, 2020
DUNWOODY COMMUNITY GARDEN BOARD MEETING

MEETING DATE: September 1, 2020 (this meeting was held virtually via Zoom video conference call)

ATTENDEES: Tielke Baker, Ann Bone, Teresa Hennessee, Cyndi McGill, Art Simon, Sheila Wilder, and Mike Hayward and Jeff Leech

The meeting was called to order by Ann Bone at 6:34 pm est

Minutes from the last BOD meeting held Aug 4, 2020, were presented. After review by the BOD, a few corrections were made. Ann Bone made a motion to accept the Minutes as amended. Motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Website Rollout feedback – presented by Cyndi McGill

- Sent out notice to members requesting their feedback on the new website
- Feedback seem to indicate things are working well. Tielke, Ann, and Cyndi did training on the website (how to use and how to administrate) from Knapp Concepts.
- Ann Bone is on point to be the Administrator
- A few “bumps on the road” seemed to land on Mike Hayward in membership, unfortunately more than anyone else.
- Email addresses with the domain DCGO.org are no longer valid.
- We have set up a number of new email addresses, example DCGO Treasury.com. Jeff and Art need to see Cyndi off line to link their email address, DCGO greenhouse@gmail.com and DCGOgarden@gmail.com to their phones or computers as appropriate.
- All new email addresses are up and running.
- We do have a way to access any old email from previous email address of DCGObrookrunpark.com (Cyndi, is this accurate?). If you need to access any older email, see Cyndi.
- We have already had hits on our new website. A community garden in Oakridge, Tennessee, requested information on how we set up our garden as they are interested in setting up their own community garden.
- Everyone was given appropriate email passwords and told not to change them as the mail boxes are role specific. We are going to leave that as is for the future.
- We have the capability to view how many hits we have on our new website, but did not have that info available for tonight’s meeting.

Membership Update – presented by Mike Hayward

- We have new members at the garden resulting from DCGO BOD approved plot confiscations. Confiscated plots are 107, 111, 201, 302, 607). Summary of all plot changes are listed below:

Plot #	was	now is:
107	David Wyatt	open / on hold per Garden Mgr. request

111	Patricia Hicks	Sharon Sutherlin (new member)
201	Inger Van Hoy	Daryl Moore (new member)
212	John & Cheryl Kriek	plot was confiscated, but Kriek's reclaimed
302	Robin Fox	Colleen Lawrence (switched with plot 605)
310	Maya Darrington	Just became open, member will release their plot back to DCGO
605	Colleen Lawrence	Ivonne Mastin (new member)
607	Mary Gonzales	Jim McGraw (new member)
209	Noelle Busse	Mike Hayward (switched with plot 509)
509	Mike Hayward	Noelle Busse (switched with plot 209)

- Additionally, at Garden Manager's request 10 emails were sent to members to get a status on their plots and to see if they were planning to plant this fall and renew membership in 2021. These plots were 114, 115, 203, 205, 310, 401, 413, 416, 516, 608. Five of these plot holders responded indicating they wished to retain their plot and would be planting. These plots are 114, 203, 205, 401, 608.
- Plot 310 responded saying they do not plan to renew. I have re-contacted them to see if they are at the point where they would release their plot. And four plot holders, 115, 413, 416, 516, have yet to respond. These plot holders are being re-contacted to see if we can get a status.
- Wait list: We currently have 34 names on the plot wait list
- For clarity, we will advise new members (those on waiting list and those signing up in September) that if they were to wait until October 1 to pay for their plot, their \$60 membership fee would apply to 2021 calendar year as well as Oct Nov Dec 2020. However, they cannot expect DCGO to hold their plot for them indefinitely so they can save money, especially as there are over 30 persons on the waiting list. If a new member secures a plot in September and pay the \$60 for 2020, they will have to pay another \$60 in December for calendar year 2021.

Master Gardener Talk Status – presented by Ann

- The next scheduled Master Gardener class will be September 12. This will be a virtual class. Ann is working with Judith Mills and Deb Feltoe. They will be hosting this Master Gardener session via Zoom. Participants will need to register first (link sent in Mail Chimp bi-weekly newsletter). So far more Friends of the Garden have signed up for this session than garden members. Topic is Native Plants and will be presented by Ann Bone.

Garden Update – presented by Jeff

- Flannery formerly with Atlanta Food Bank, but now with Food Well Alliance will bring a camera team to film the main garden. They will start with our community garden, then go on to other community gardens in the area. The tour will take place from 10 to 12 noon on September 10. Jeff Leech will be the tour leader.
- “Fred” Flannery’s boss contacted Ann and suggested DCGO apply for a grant to purchase yellow bag compost at reduced pricing. Ann had applied to Food Well last year for a grant, but DCGO did not receive. It was determined that DCGO was much more successful than other community

gardens and therefore their grant money should go to community gardens needing more help than DCGO.

- Ann was working with Atlanta Botanical garden to secure small grants, enough to rebuild 5 plots. Grant would be approximately \$250 worth of lumber and brackets to build/rebuild beds.
- Many thanks to member Tielke Baker for redoing the rain barrel in the main garden.
- Jeff still needs to get with Gabe from Dunwoody Rec department to determine what the city's plans are for the gravel parking lot and compost area. Rumor has it that "disc golf" would be located in the gravel parking area. Jeff to discuss with Gabe.
- We need a couple new wheelbarrows and bins with wheels. If anyone is aware of other items needed in the main garden, please text Jeff.
- Jeff finally found a heavy duty hose to replace one that was worn out (?????)
- The bird bath was turned over. Need to purchase a new bird bath.
- Recommendation was made to place some (or all??) bird feeders outside the fence of the main garden. The squirrel activity around the bird feeders was very bad.
- A question was raised about the rabbits getting into the main garden and having a feast. Is there anything we can do? Tielke to purchase metal stripping to place around the fence line, under the fence so the rabbits can't get in under the fencing. Jeff to work with Tielke on rabbit proofing around the charity beds. Rabbits appear to be coming in under the fencing back around the Kiwi area. This could be a garden work day project if the supply strips were available.

Greenhouse update – Presented by Art

- Flannery visited Art in the greenhouse. She wanted to buy a lot of fall vegetables, broccoli, kale, etc. She came with a list. Art and Flannery to discuss what we would be able to do. This request is part of Captain Planet. She would have DCGO listed as a vendor for Captain Planet. DCGO would grow a lot of plants, about 1,000, to sell to Captain Planet. We have sold to them in the past. We sold about \$1,000 last year. Captain Planet is a 501C that supports local school systems around the area. They manage and provide plants for garden plots at local schools. Is there a tax implication if we sell on this large scale? Yes, if we sell over \$50,000 in one year. Since we will never come close to that, the tax implication is moot.
- Currently Art has about 15 different varieties of plants growing in the greenhouse
- Two chairs were broken in the greenhouse area by a lawn mower. Art had a conversation with Gabe from Dunwoody Parks & Rec department and advised him of the incident.
- We have received a large number of plant donations.
- We have two good volunteers who are coming to the greenhouse weekly to pot up plants and fill up the beds in the greenhouse with plants. They are Mika Oda and Kathy May.

Annual Meeting update – Presented by Ann

- Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 20, at 4:00 pm via Zoom. Deb Feltoe and Judith Mills will be producing and hosting this even for DCGO.
- Hope to have a good turn-out. Be sure to talk up the meeting with other garden members.
- Do we need a certain percentage of membership attendance for passing changes to the by-laws? There is no percentage required.
- Updates to mention at the annual meeting:
 - Renewal of plots need to be paid by December 31st.
 - We will change the locks at the first of the new year

- Jeff has rebuilt 18 plots in the garden. He has rebuilt 5 charity beds (separate from 18)
- We were unable to have a Spring plant sale; however, we have sold plants ad hoc from the greenhouse from the spring through the summer. All total we have sold approximately \$6,000 in walk-in sales to the greenhouse.

Finance update – presented by Bill Grossman

- We have approximately \$5,200 in both our checking and savings accounts. This amount is after we have paid the invoice from Knapp Concepts for work on the website.

Other

- Knapp Concepts asked if we could write a letter of appreciation so they could use for customer referrals. We were happy with the outcome of the new website and training, so we would be happy to offer a referral letter. Cyndi to draft a letter coming from the Chairman for Ann to sign.
- Discussion was held regarding changing the locks at the main garden gates and the storage shed. After discussion a motion was made by Art and seconded by Shelia that DCGO would change the locks at the main garden at the first of every year. Motion passed.
- Note: the greenhouse complex locks are under the control of the city of Dunwoody. We cannot change out those locks. There has not been any issue of plant theft at the greenhouse complex.

With no further business, Art made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 pm est

Respectfully submitted

Teresa Hennessee
Recording Secretary