

MINUTES – Annual Meeting (DRAFT)
September 12, 2021
DUNWOODY COMMUNITY GARDEN and ORCHARD

MEETING DATE: September 12, 2021

Meeting was opened at 4:12 pm est by Tielke Baker

Below is the speech from outgoing Chairman, Tielke Baker to the members (approximately 30) of the Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard.

Annual Meeting September 12, 2021

Good afternoon and welcome everyone to Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard's annual meeting.

Last year was a first for our garden membership as our annual meeting was conducted via zoom due to COVID. Our thanks again to Deb Felto and Judith Mills for hosting and producing that meeting and several monthly meetings afterward.

We are here to celebrate the accomplishments since our last meeting on September 20 of last year. We have no new by-laws to vote on this year, but we do have a new slate of officers for this year.

In the garden this past year five new 4 x 8 beds were built to accommodate our growing waiting list. Four beds are located next to the kiwi's and another is next to the rain barrels.

Jeff Leach Garden Manager rebuilt over 20 beds this year and continues to monitor the overall well-being of the garden.

Charity beds 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 19 and 20 were all rebuilt.

The lumber cost to build one 8 x 4 ft bed is \$42.00. Three months ago, one board cost us \$37.00. Thankfully lumber prices are coming down, and we will continue to replace beds as needed.

New herbs pots were set up behind the greenhouse with hopes of installing four 3x8 beds for herbs in the near future.

The following maintain charity beds:

Ann Bone

Judith Mills and Deb Feltoe

Eleanor Geddes

Marcia Dunn

Colleen Lawrence

Galina Voronkova

Tina Turner

Thank you one and all for your continued efforts in the garden for those that need our food.

Harvest Team is composed of:

**Ann Bone

Deb Feltoe

Eleanor Geddes

Ellen Davidson

Faye Roane

Hannah Wilson

Janice Fett

Judith Mills

Marcia Dunn

Meghan Harter

Sheila Wilder

Some of you may have noticed as I read the list that many of the names, I just read are overachievers as they PLANT AND HARVEST.

Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard is on track to donate over 2,000 lbs. of fresh produce that our planting team has planted, and the harvest team has harvested. All our food is donated to Malachi Kitchen at Saint Patrick's Episcopal Church across the street from the main entrance to Brook Run Park.

Many thanks to the Master Gardener Team for their continued support of the Orchard, the Perennial beds and Berries at the garden, the butterfly garden and the shade garden.

This past year the Greenhouse under the leadership of Arthur Simon supported the following gardens and organizations:

1. St Patrick's's Episcopal Church
2. Temple E Manu-L
3. Brookhaven Community Garden
4. Stone Mountain Community Garden
5. Dekalb Housing-Brookhaven Senior Living
6. Partners in Action for Healthy Living (PAHL)
 - a. Charity Missionary Baptist Church Garden
 - b. Peace Community Garden
 - c. Columbia Drive Church Garden
7. Captain Planet; we sell and donate plants
8. Soren Milo Ludwig; we sell and donate plants to his to distribute to other local charities
9. In the past we have also donated plants to veterans organizations as well as Dunwoody Women's Garden Club.

Our thanks to Art Simon, Greenhouse Manager and the greenhouse volunteers:

1. Mika Oda
2. Kathy May
3. Katie Gordon
4. Howard Leggett
5. Lori Altman
6. Dwight McMillan
7. Dave Siegler
8. Jane McLean
9. Maureen Dias
10. Lisbeth Boli

Due to all their efforts and the volunteer sales team we had the largest 3-day plant sale in the history of the garden. My heartfelt thanks to you all.

As the board came together, connecting and being innovative and resourceful, we believed in the power of the long term by making improvements that will positively impact the DCGO garden community. We have listened to you, our garden members, and have taken the time to learn, understand our assets and weaknesses of the organization through our communication and understanding with you---our partners.

We saw an opportunity to upgrade some of our infrastructure by doing the following:

1. Purchased 4 Hose reels for the garden to get the hoses off the ground and that would last a long time.
2. Completed the installation of the rubber edging around all fruit trees in the orchard and started using the same material around the perimeter of the

fence to keep animals from crawling under the fence, this project is about 40% complete.

3. One more rain barrel was installed at the garden to improve the capacity.
4. The Greenhouse received a new tool chest to consolidate all tools in the greenhouse complex.
5. The Shed Sale enabled us to dispose of excess tools and improve our cash flow for the garden.
6. A new scale was purchased to weigh produce gathered from charity beds.
7. New red harvest baskets were purchased to assist with harvest collection of fruits and vegetables.

Now for our business part of the process. The following is a list of candidates for Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard to serve from September 12, 2021 to our next Annual meeting in 2022.

It has been my honor to serve as your Chairman this past year and will treasure all the new garden members I had the pleasure of meeting and getting to know. My thanks to the Board for your generous support and encouragement.

1. Cyndi McGill Chair
2. Ann Bone Co-Chair
3. Bill Grossman Treasurer
4. Eleanor Geddes – Membership Chair
5. Ann Wright – Secretary
6. Sheila Wilder – Social Co-Chair
7. Sandra Dubois – Social Co Chair
8. Kame Tseja – Community Outreach Chair
9. Jeff Leach Garden Chair
10. Art Simon – Greenhouse manager
11. Richard Osterholtz – Assistant Greenhouse Manager

Tielke asked the question, “Do I have a motion to accept the slate of candidates that has be proposed?”

Eleanor Geades made a motion to accept the candidates. The motion was seconded by Judith what is Judith’s last name? _____. A vote was taken and unanimously approved the slate of officers presented.

Congratulations to Cyndi McGill and all the board members just elected. I hereby pass the golden cultivator of office to Cyndi and turn the meeting over to her.

Cyndi accepted the golden cultivator and the confidence entrusted to her in this role. She is looking forward to continuing the mission of DCGO. As a reminder to the members, our Fall Plant sale is Friday and Saturday, October 16 and 17. We will have broccoli, lettuces, different cabbages and a limited number of perennials as well. Keep an eye out for emails asking for volunteers through the Sign-Up Genius app.

Special recognition to Teresa Hennessee for her many years of service to the BOD. She will be stepping down this year.

Special recognition to Tielke Baker for all of his “behind the scenes” work committed to DCGO . . . sweeping and setting up the Barn for each monthly Master Gardener session, pressure washing and painting the curbs in the greenhouse complex prior to our plant sales, repairing charity beds as well as other tasks and duties that help to keep DCGO running smoothly and efficiently.

Drawing for door prize was held. The winner was Tilda _____ (need spelling of last name)

Motion was made by Art Simon and seconded by Tielke Baker to close the annual meeting and prepare for the group dinner

Respectfully submitted

Teresa Hennessee
Recording Secretary