

November 7, 2023 BOARD MEETING
DUNWOODY COMMUNITY GARDEN AND ORCHARD

Attending: Anna Schoenbaechler, Ann Wright, Richard Osterholtz, John Kriek, Dave Siegler, Eleanor Geddes, Cyndi McGill, Kame Awokoya

Cyndi called the meeting to order at 6:29 and introduced Anna Schoenbaechler to the BOD as the Volunteer Coordinator.

The October Annual Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as submitted.

Dave Siegler gave the VICE -CHAIR report - Harvest donations total 2119 lbs YTD *not including sweet potatoes curing and donated pumpkins*. After discussion of whether donated pumpkins should be included in our harvest totals or not, it was decided to keep that weight tally separate and to query Malachi's Storehouse about their desire to continue receiving pumpkins. A transition email to the Pantry Bed tenders has been sent out by Ann Bone, introducing Dave as the incoming PB Coordinator.

It was agreed to move the DCGO Newsletter item list to the end of the BOD agenda.

MEMBERSHIP - Eleanor reported 2 new members, 1 resignation, 0 open beds and that the wait list has 7 names on it. She and Cyndi have been coordinating changes needed to website documents and the online renewal process.

TREASURER - John projected an additional \$1000 surplus. He also informed the BOD that all interest earned on our CD's is being reinvested in order to compound the interest income.

GREENHOUSE - Richard reported that GH volunteer Mika Oda will be returning to Japan permanently in February. Dave suggested that ideas for honoring Mika's outstanding volunteerism be considered.

Richard indicated that cool-season seedlings are ready to be installed in Pantry Beds. All plants not claimed soon will be installed in the 4 additional

PB's at the greenhouse. Richard harvested an additional 10+ lbs of sweet potatoes from the greenhouse raised bed.

Richard stated that the Cox Enterprises volunteer day was very successful and that the shed, small greenhouse and plant infirmary were all cleared and cleaned. Additionally, Richard has replaced 2 grow beds in the large greenhouse which had rotted. It was decided that the soil in all the greenhouse grow beds does not need complete replacement due to the fact that natural rotation and planting replenish the beds every two to three years. Richard and Cyndi will study incoming seed catalogs to select 2024 seeds. All agreed that Midnight Moon eggplants and Lunchbox peppers were very productive in 2023.

GARDEN - Cyndi reported for Jeff that a Garden Volunteer Workday is scheduled for Dec. 7, to include leaf raking, shredding and placement in the pollinator beds and Pantry Beds. Anna will coordinate with all the Garden Volunteers.

SOCIAL - Ann reported that the Annual Meeting attendance was light, only about 30 folks. She stated that ordering the meat dishes was much easier than cooking on site. With an expenditure of \$600 and lots of leftover food, is this worth continuing? It was suggested that a member survey be taken to solicit membership opinions on this. Cyndi reported that most of the non-member evites were never opened.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH - Kame has completed media blasts for all 2023 activities. Richard is still completing the 2024 Master Gardener Talk schedule.

NEW BUSINESS -

Cyndi presented info on FoodWell Alliance's 2024 grant programs and it was decided that DCGO will submit an application for one of the \$1500 supply grants to use toward Soil3. Discussion was held about submitting an application for a sprinkler replacement project but it was decided that this would be premature at this time.

Cyndi also relayed that FoodWell Alliance is partnering with the Atlanta Regional Commission to select a city ready to integrate a plan to manage food supplies. This is called the City Agriculture Plan and is hoped to address food deserts,

urban farming, etc. East Point, Jonesboro and Alpharetta are past recipients. After discussion, it was decided that Dunwoody is probably not an appropriate setting for this type of effort at this time. We have no food deserts and no agricultural areas.

Membership renewal time is upon us. Cyndi, Eleanor and Ann Bone are working with Kapp to update our online process for 2024. They will also work with Kapp to correct an issue regarding Membership and Treasurer receiving copies of new membership agreements. The BOD decided that Affiliate Member dues will be reduced to \$40 and that Affiliate Members be offered the opportunity to join volunteer teams. The renewal process is expected to go live before thanksgiving. Ann will create and send a special DCGO Newsletter linking to the updated process.

BOD transitions have occurred; Ann Bone has passed the Vice-Chair baton to Dave with the exception of the newsletter production, which will now be the responsibility of the Secretary. Anna Schoenbaechler will use the DCGOgarden@gmail.com mailbox.

Ann will send a DCGO newsletter this week about: watching for renewal info, time to clean out beds or plant cool-season crops, the November MG talk and the sweet potato harvest.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Bone
SECRETARY
Dunwoody Community Garden and Orchard

