

Master Gardener Volunteers of Cuyahoga County

Special Virtual Advisory Council Meeting

Oct. 28, 2024

Attendance: Dave Appel, Tom Capretta, Deb Dougherty, Sue Pandoli, Gretchen Faro, Melanie Biche, Cheryl Dever, Kate Rosfelder, Anya Milgram, Shoshana Wodzisz, Ellen Comeau, Deborah Osgood

We received \$3,530 including a \$500 IRA contribution in response to the latest fundraising letter. Goal for the appeal was \$2,500. Dave is picking up the cost of the mailing and will note that cost. We will use a fundraising software (Boomerang) for the acknowledgment letters. We will send out a 2nd request in the next NYCU. There is a cost of \$15 per MGCV that is paid to the state.

2025 Budget Projections:

Melanie has budgets from 18 committee chairs for the 2025 budget. We will bring up the \$15 per MGCV cost and other expenses at the Annual Meeting and will try to initiate several requests. Consider making the \$15 cost mandatory for volunteers annually. Largest “fixed” cost is our Volunteer Coordinator. We need to have discussion and do research on how other counties handle administrative tasks. Shoshana and Dave will help Melanie research other counties.

Budget requests from committees will be sent to Cheryl who will create a preliminary budget for us for the November AC meeting. We will review evaluations and process and schedule meetings to discuss.

Advisory Council Vacancy:

We still need to recruit to fill the 2025 Advisory Council vacancy. Melanie will reach out to committee chairs for suggestions of appropriate candidates. Anya will reach out to Cat Miller to gauge her interest in joining the AC.

Fundraising:

Dave has attended 2 Candid training sessions. Westlake library provides access to these trainings. The 3rd session will be Tuesday, Nov. 12th at 10:00am at the Westlake library. We are exploring holding a Dining in the Garden fundraiser. Tom has volunteered to take the lead.

Mark Your Calendars:

Annual Meeting - March 8, 2025

Plants in the Park – May 31, 2025

Meeting adjourned 7:50pm

Submitted by Deborah Osgood, Secretary