

**DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

**November 3, 2010, 10:00 A. M.
Extension Office Conference Room**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting chairman Linda Williams called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:04 A.M. at the Texas Agrilife Extension office in Denton, TX. In attendance were Zoe Broxson, Susan Cosio, Jenny Estes, Janie Farler, Wally Gehrke, Sue Hudiburgh, Janet Laminack, Susan Loos, Diana McMillin, Shirley Manfredi, Mary Morrow, Carolyn Tinner, Laurel Wallace, Linda Williams, and Donna Wolfe.
- II. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the October board meeting had previously been forwarded to the board via email by the Secretary. Printed copies were available at the meeting. The minutes were accepted as presented.
- III. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Copies of the financial report and an itemized list of expenses and income for InfoFest were provided at the meeting. Shirley reviewed the reports. InfoFest had fewer expenses and more income than had been expected. There was discussion about tax-free days and about income and expenditures for the DiG.

Shirley said she had received dues for 2011 from 11 members and renewal forms from all but 1 of those. We will remind everyone at the general meeting that dues are due and to please fill out a renewal form.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

- IV. Linda received a thank you note from the Chaparral 4H club for asking them to work at InfoFest.

V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Project Administration – Brenda Wellenreiter

1. Brenda was unable to attend due to jury duty.
2. The project review meeting is scheduled for 11/15 from 10-12. All members who want to learn about the projects can come; an RSVP to Brenda is requested.
3. The nomination committee has selected a new set of candidates for next year for the board and most committee chairs. We will hold the election of board members at the next general meeting.

B. Ways and Means – Sandy Read

Sandy was unable to attend.

C. Communications – Janie Farler

Website: Two meetings were scheduled for today to discuss issues, some of which came from the retreat. We will work on fixing current problems and then review the site with the members and survey for suggestions.

D. Programs – Carol Fitch

1. Carol was unable to attend
2. November's speaker will be Marilyn Sallee, speaking about invasive plants.

E. Member-at-Large – Zoe Broxson:

Zoe provided a report about the retreat, where we discussed the recent member survey. We had 40 responses to the survey, which were reviewed and categorized by an outside consultant, Peggy Atkerson. Peggy presented a summary and her recommendations at the retreat. Following her presentation, attendees separated into breakout groups to discuss issues and make recommendations. The next step is to document the breakout recommendations to present at the November general meeting. Members will vote on which ideas we should implement

F. Report by County Coordinator – Janet Laminack

1. A leadership training meeting with Jayla Fry is planned for 12/15. The new 2011 board and possibly committee leaders will be invited.
2. Mary Karish mentioned to Janet that Gene Gumfory would like to move the veggie show to the Denton Bible Church. He estimates that there are at least 60 gardeners from the DBC garden who would participate. The location was discussed. The consensus was that the current location (the park near the Bayless-Selby House) has historic and community significance to Denton, so maybe we need to think about ways to get the DBC gardeners to participate at the current location. Suggestions were signs in the DBC garden or attending Gene's monthly meeting to talk about the show and how to prepare. We should also ask Gene for his ideas about how to publicize the show to his group.
3. One of the commissioners contacted Janet about landscaping at the Sandy Jacobs government building in Carrollton, looking for someone to make recommendations for improvement. Helen Marsee was

- suggested; Janet will check with her.
4. Linda said she is interested in getting together a group to work on landscaping at the Copeland building in Denton. On February 26 next year, Janet will host an EarthKind symposium at the Copeland Center. We might be able to use that to work on the Copeland landscaping, having participants plan soil prep, plant selection, and drip irrigation. The county will pay for and do the work.
- G. Volunteer Coordinator – Donna Wolfe
Nothing new this week.
- H. Christmas Party – Brenda Wellenreiter
CCA has been selected as the charity for our party. They are interested in both food and new toys. Evelyn McMillan has suggested another possibility. Linda will send additional information.
- I. Class of 2011—Zoe Broxson
1. Round-Up: We had good participation. Thanks to those who brought food, decorated and spoke.
 2. Field trips for the class: the EarthKind garden in Farmers Branch and the Dallas MGs demo garden.
 3. Applications/Interviews: The review of applicants will be on December 15 at 1:15. 29 active applicants are being interviewed, so we might be able to take them all. Clarice is the new mentor coordinator.
 4. The team is looking for someone to help create presentations for brown bags, using a standard format. This year brown bag presentations will be more strictly limited to 30 minutes.
 5. The tuition is \$175 and can be paid over time. We have a couple of applicants who are being sponsored by UNT.
- J. RotoTeller – Mary Morrow
The next deadline is Nov 19. There has been discussion about doing a monthly newsletter, but sending out a weekly or monthly calendar or list of events might solve that issue. From the survey, members would like more calendar information and fewer emails. Project Managers may soon be able to update the member events calendar. We need to meet to discuss all of the above. Donna, Mary, Zoe, Jenny, and Sue said they would like to participate, and it was suggested that Susie Cook also be invited.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/GROUP DISCUSSION

- A. President's Recognition Award – Sue Hudiburgh
Sue described the President's Volunteer Service Award as a possible award for our members who contribute more than 100 hours of volunteer time per year. It was moved, seconded and approved that Sue should pursue registering the DCMGA as a 'certifying organization'. We will present the idea at the general meeting.
- B. Lifetime Member Nominee – Donna Wolfe
Donna suggested one of our members for the Lifetime Member award. It was moved, seconded and approved that we nominate that person for the award.
- C. Demonstration Garden
1. The inspector approved, and the greenhouse was built by members during an AT class. A rose propagation AT class was also conducted. Lasagna gardening AT is coming up next week. (Janie will lead that.) Other workdays are planned.
 2. There will be a fundraiser at Sweetwater Grill at 4:00 on November 13. Volunteers are needed to set up and to make centerpieces and crafts to donate for sale. There will be T-shirts for sale, and Carolyn Tinner will do holiday arrangements and take orders for sale. A cookie bouquet has been donated. Jimmy and Karen are donating food, linens, and tables. There might be other business donations.
 3. There was a question about donating some old things from Garden Shoppe, with profit going to the DiG. Shirley said that there is currently no inventory price on those things. It was moved and seconded that we allow the Garden Shoppe to make a donation to the DiG. Discussion followed, and there was some concern about favoring one project over another. Is this a bad precedent? In any case, we'd need to value the merchandise and make adjustments in the budget. There was a vote, and the motion failed.
- D. Awards -- Nominees
1. Voting for awards is to take place at the Christmas Party. Nominations will be taken at the November general meeting. There was a question about who received awards last year, and Linda said she would put that information on the ballot.
 2. Projects for State Awards and Others: The state awards package is available now. Linda would like input and Zoe said she would help with the submissions.
 3. It has been suggested that we buy a bench for Denton Bible Church as a gift for allowing us to do InfoFest there.
- E. Graduation events.
We are still looking for a speaker. We can offer them lodging and an honorarium. Suggestions were:
1. Stephanie Briggs' husband, who spoke about presentations recently.
 2. Flo Oxley, from the millennium seed bank. Perhaps Flo could talk to us about volunteerism. We could also see if she might do an AT presentation the next day.

3. Felder Rushing.
4. Carolyn suggested Jerry Parsons from San Antonio. Janet will check on Jerry.

VII. OPEN DISCUSSION

- A. The Golden Gnome luncheon (for the class with most ticket sales for the Garden Tour) will be on November 16 at Mary's. Members of this year's board are asked to bring food.
- B. Jenny presented a report on Riding the Rails. She pointed out that we do Riding the Rails twice a year. Hodge Elementary paid for busses for the kids. The principal asked for lesson plans to review with bilingual students.
- C. Education report: Twenty-seven people attended the greenhouse build at the DiG. The Presentations program was attended by 16 people. Volunteers are needed for the Ask an MG booth at the Super Bowl Tree Planting next Saturday.
- D. Susan Loos expressed her appreciation for the (unofficial) party held in her honor and gifts to help her replace flood-damaged belongings.
- E. Donna said many people have signed up for Sunshine group.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 A.M.

Next meeting: Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. at Linda Williams' house.