

**DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

October 6, 2010, 10:00 A. M.

Extension Office Small Conference Room

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting chairman Linda Williams called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:02 A.M. at the Texas Agrilife Extension office in Denton, TX. In attendance were Zoe Broxson, Jenny Estes, Janie Farler, Wally Gehrke, Sue Hudiburgh, Janet Laminack, Shirley Manfredi, Mary Morrow, Sandy Read, Laurel Wallace, Brenda Wellenreiter, Linda Williams, and Donna Wolfe.
- II. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the September 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 were provided at the meeting. Shirley reviewed the September activity, including InfoFest expenses and income. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.
- VI. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - A. Project Administration – Brenda Wellenreiter
 1. Cool shade: Susan Loos will chair. Bagging is scheduled for October 20th at Janie Farler's.
 2. Project Managers Review meeting scheduled for 11/15. All existing or prospective PMs and board members are invited. The purpose of the meeting is to review the current status and needs of the projects. Lunch will be provided. RSVP to Brenda will be required.
 3. Nomination committee report: Sue, Laurel, Carol and Brenda are working on board nominations. Jenny Estes has accepted the nomination for president. Laurel has accepted the Secretary nomination, and Wally will be nominated for Treasurer, Susan Cosio, Director of Communication, Monique Goodhart, Director of Education, and Zoe, Member at Large. They are still looking for a VP. There will be no absentee voting for the board.
 4. Report on InfoFest
 - a. Budget: Shirley provided the income/expense report with the Treasurer's report.
 - b. Garden Shoppe: Sandy Read. The music was well received and the vendors were happy. Some vendors were no-shows. The yard art guy would like to participate in more events and would consider a 10% donation.
 - c. Attendance: Donna said that the count was 354 (including children). Zip code data was collected. There were not so many attendees from south of the lake.
 - d. There will be a debrief meeting on 11/4 at 10:00-12 at the office.
 5. Demonstration Garden: Cindy/Zoe: A major issue is Anita's health. Cindy could use some help and is looking for a co-captain to do financial, fund-raising, work days, and organizing. Barbara Russell, Rebecca McCammon and Leah Knack were suggested. Zoe will give these names to Cindy. Zoe has been doing status reports. Cindy would like to do another Sweetwater fundraiser in November. Workdays currently scheduled: 10/12 (rose propagation), 10/27 (greenhouse), 11/8 (lasagna beds), 11/6 or 11/13 for Sweetwater fundraiser. Preparation of the rose bed is planned for November or December. An IBM grant for a tool shed has been requested. The propagation team would like to work at the demo garden—Zoe to talk with Cindy about that. The vegetable garden is doing very well. An intern from A&M is working with Cindy.
 - B. Education – Wally Gehrke
 1. Mary Karish had at least one show and tell in September. On September 18, we had a presence at two events: the Farmer's Market in Lewisville, and Ask a Master Gardener had a booth in Flower Mound.
 2. There was also a talk at the Lewisville library in association with Keep Lewisville Beautiful.
 3. The fall library series at the Denton library has started; it was advertised in the Denton Record Chronicle. Mary suggested we use Denton Live to advertise.
 - C. Ways and Means – Sandy Read – Inventory report

Sandy presented the Garden Shoppe inventory report. She said some items are damaged, and we could probably sell them at reduced prices. Linda suggested that a Garden Shoppe report be presented to the board monthly or quarterly.
 - D. Communications – Janie Farler
 1. The website is up and running. Mary got the calendar up, but she is having problems with it and has contacted A&M. The calendar on the home page isn't working. Sue will take over the website next year and Susan Cosio has been nominated to be Communication Director. Elizabeth Snapp is no longer working with Janie on the help desk.

2. Publicity: We have a new form on website to request publicity/publications. We are trying to let people know what publicity deadlines are, so we can get publicity done in a timely manner. Donna will send out an email about that to let members know about the form.
- E. Programs – Carol Fitch
1. The October meeting time has changed to daytime from evening.
 2. Funding for speaker? Steven Chamblee has not requested his fee yet per Shirley.
- D. Member-at-Large – Linda Williams:
1. Zoe volunteered to take over as Member at Large for rest of year. It was moved, seconded, discussed, and approved that Zoe should act as Member at Large for rest of 2010.
 2. Survey Conversation: Zoe prepared the survey that was sent out in August. She had a concern about the survey results: they didn't say what question the comments related to. Donna recommended that Zoe ask Peggy Atkinson (who has consolidated the data), but suggested that we need to 'stay away' from the surveys to preserve anonymity. Peggy will come to retreat and present the results. At the October general meeting, members will select items from the survey for discussion at retreat.
- E. Report by County Coordinator – Janet Laminack
1. Collin county master gardeners are planning a garden show (similar to InfoFest) and wanted Janet to tell us about it. They are also having a bulb sale. Check out their speaker's bureau page; you can see the first few pages of PowerPoint presentations.
 2. Hodge Elementary has had vandalism at their garden and need to build a fence. They are doing a fundraiser, collecting printer cartridges. Janet will write an announcement asking us to contribute cartridges.
 3. TWU project: Jill Peak and Debbie Van Ness are working on it. Janet filled out the project form, and it was moved, seconded and approved as an official project. Linda said they had 10 MGs at the last work day to supervise students. Jill or Debbie will send a write-up to Mary for publications.
- F. Volunteer Coordinator – Donna Wolfe
1. Donna will be on vacation next week.
 2. We had 64 volunteers to help on InfoFest.
- G. Christmas Party – Brenda Wellenreiter
1. Dolores Payne and Brenda are working on the Christmas party. Ben E. Keith is booked for December 8 from 11-1. Brenda and Dolores have reviewed charities, and recommend CCA. CCA serves all of Denton County, and would like either food or new toys. We could also do Toys for Tots. Donna suggested that we ask members which charity they prefer, so we will do that next week. Activities are being planned for the party. One idea was to purchase little artificial trees, have members decorate them, and auction them off (for charity) as table centerpieces. Money is needed (\$300). Another idea is to buy ham or turkey. Linda said we do have money in the budget (under "other") for those expenses.
- H. Class of 2011
1. Round-Up
 - i. Round-Up is scheduled for October 19 at 10-12 at the Extension office.
 - ii. We need publicity for the new class in the southern part of the county. Flyers have been taken to Calloway's. Zoe will send the class schedule to Donna.
 2. Applications/Interviews

Five teams of 2 people each will be needed to interview, pairing one person who is experienced at interviewing with a new person. The goal is to get the interviews done by Thanksgiving. The plan is to use similar, standard questions as in the past. We have 16 applicants so far, and plan to limit the class to 30.
 3. Plans for the class.
 - i. The schedule for the class has been finalized and speakers confirmed. We will have 'MG hosts' to help speakers and help interns at each class.
 - ii. Maurine will not be mentor coordinator again, so we are looking for a new one. The nominating committee is looking at committee leads, including mentor coordinator.
 - iii. A survey about the mentor experience was taken in the 2010 class. Should we ask those mentors who received high marks to mentor again? Assigning two interns per mentor is being considered, as well as having specific tasks required of all mentors—to standardize the experience.
 - iv. Per feedback on brown bags, presenters will be asked to follow a standard format, provide a handout and limit talks to 30 minutes. Topics will be on the website. Thanks to Janet for the survey idea; it resulted in good information.
 - v. A basic DCMGA logo shirt will be provided, as well as a directory. The acceptance letter will ask for the shirt size and ask for a soil sample.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/GROUP DISCUSSION

- A. Retreat: Linda. Retreat is scheduled for 10/28 (Thursday) from 9-3. It will be at the Extension office. We may have breakouts to discuss questions. Costumes are optional.
- B. Awards: Linda:
Nominees: We would like to recognize some of those who work hard but often don't get recognized. We will do Partner of the Year again.
- C. Projects for State Awards and others: Linda will handle this. We need to check the website for deadlines. Linda will ask for suggestions at the next members meeting.
- E. Graduation events
The location will be Celebrations again, on January 12. We need someone to taste and select food. The price is the same as last year. We'll use Evite for the graduation dinner, but send paper invitations to the 2010 class.
- F. December Board Meeting – Linda's house December 1 at 10 A.M. Don't bring food.
- G. Other Announcements/Discussion
Sandy said they are trying to get Susan Loos on the Nate Berkus show. They have formed a production team to create application. Janie also said they are organizing a fundraiser for Susan—e.g. a no host event at Sweetwater. No date yet. This is not an official event.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 A.M.

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at 10:00 A.M.