

**DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING**

**September 1, 2010, 10:00 A. M.
Extension Office Conference Room**

- I. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting chairman Brenda Wellenreiter 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 Wally Gehrke, Sue Hudiburgh, Janet Laminack, Shirley Manfredi, Janie Farler, Brenda Wellenreiter, Mary Morrow, Donna Wolfe and Susan Cosio.

Changes to the makeup of the board:

1. On August 22, Annell Burns resigned from her position as Member-at-Large via email to the board.
2. On August 23, Brenda Wellenreiter was elected to serve as Vice-President for the remainder of 2010, following an email vote by the board. The vote was as follows:
Ayes: Sue Hudiburgh, Secretary; Shirley Manfredi, Treasurer; Wallace Gehrke, Education; Janie Farler, Communications.
Abstaining: Annell Burns, Member-at-Large
CEA-Horticulture Janet Laminack indicated her approval.

- II. MINUTES: Minutes for the August 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 August activity. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented with correction of a typo under "JMG-SWAT Project Annual Budget" under "Income".

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Project Administration – Donna Wolfe

1. Donna put together a list of projects which was available at the meeting.
2. There was discussion about whether Mary Karish's time working with Gene at the Denton Bible Church community garden on composting should count as volunteer time, since she has been using the work as a teaching opportunity. Since this isn't an official project, however, the rules say that only 3 hours can be counted. Mary will be encouraged to submit a project initiation form.

B. Ways and Means – Brenda Wellenreiter

Garden shoppe expenditures were approved at the general meeting.

C. Communications – Janie Farler

1. Publicity:
 - a. Janie and Susan Cosio are working on publicity procedures, which they will put on the website. Janie suggested that Susan be considered for Communications Director next year.
 - b. Janet suggested that the project manager of an event or project should be responsible for content of publicity and be able to review it. There have been issues with getting publicity information in time for publication.
 - c. Sandy Read and Janie did an interview about InfoFest on Charter local access. Wayne Farley wrote a press release for InfoFest.
2. Website: The new website is up and running now and the team is continuing to work on it. Mary, Janie and Sue attended a Wordpress Centra class on August 30 and are waiting for more technical information from Diann Mitchell, who taught the class.

D. Programs – Carol Fitch

Carol was unable to attend. We are all set for the next general meeting, which will be at the extension office. Donna said that the October meeting is scheduled as a night meeting, and she will be out of town, so we need to make arrangements to get in the building. Another option would be to move to the Copeland center or to a day meeting. If we change the time or venue, we will need to work with the speaker.

E. Member-at-Large – Annell Burns

1. As of August 22, Annell has resigned as Member-at-Large via an email to board members. It was moved, seconded and approved that we accept her resignation. We need to let the members know about the board changes and that we have an open position on the board.
2. Shirley and Annell were planning to update the membership renewal survey, but Shirley can finish that and we can ask everyone to submit it with their 2011 dues at the October meeting.
3. About 30 people have responded to the survey. We would like to have results ready for retreat. It was

decided that we will not extend the deadline.

F. Report by County Coordinator – Janet Laminack

Janet had someone from TWU ask if we could help with a native plant rock garden there. They have 3 work days a year on Friday mornings and would like someone to advise the students. Tasks are weeding, pruning, mulching, planting, etc. September 24 is the next work day. The contact is Cynthia MacGuire (she is a member of the Native Plant Society). We will ask at the general meeting on Sept 8 if anyone is interested in being PM.

G. Volunteer Coordinator – Donna Wolfe

Donna suggested that we might have a team (“Sunshine” group) to help members who have had extended illness or family problems to spruce up their yards when they are unable to do the work themselves. No volunteer hours would be involved. Donna will solicit ideas at the general meeting.

H. Education – Wally Gehrke:

1. Wally had a report from Mary Karish. She has been having trouble getting specialists to volunteer to speak.
2. Wally, Sue and Carol Arment will be attending the Lewisville Farmer’s Market on the 18th of September. He would like to get more people to participate in these “Ask an MG” opportunities.
3. Janet mentioned that there will be a speaker’s bureau AT meeting on Sept 13th.

VII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS/GROUP DISCUSSION**

A. Projects to round out 2010: Donna has put a list of current projects.

1. Cool Shade for the 3rd Grade -- Susan Loos will chair. Bagging will be at Janie’s house.
2. InfoFest – Linda Williams: The next planning meeting is 9/13 at 11.
3. Retreat: Linda will be in charge. No date yet. Potential dates: Oct 27 pending Linda’s approval. Location TBD. There was discussion about whether we should (and if we can) hold elections for new officers before retreat.
4. Roundup / 2011 Class coordination – Zoe Broxson. Roundup is 10/19 10-12. Zoe provided a report. Donna said we already have 13 applications. Susan will do publicity and has already created a flyer. It would be good to do a story in the Denton Record Chronicle about InfoFest and the organization.
5. Nomination Committee/Election of 2011 Officers. Janet has received ideas for officers and Janie has sent some ideas to Linda. Joe has suggested Wally as treasurer, and Pat Strickland has also volunteered. The bylaws say that the nominating committee is appointed by the vice-president, and Brenda said she would head up the committee. Sue volunteered to participate as well. We need to get volunteers and suggestions from the members. The slate must be presented at least 1 month prior to the election.
6. Christmas Party: Brenda will chair. This is the month to make reservations at Ben E. Keith. Brenda was told by them that she couldn’t make a reservation until November, but she will try them again.
7. Graduation: We need ideas for a speaker.
 - a. Hosting: No discussion
 - b. Awards: No discussion
8. 2011 Garden Tour/Plant Sale: No one has indicated an interest in heading this up. Kristin Anthony would like to head up the garden selection committee. Kathi Randolph has volunteered her home for the tour. Shirley suggested that we consider having the garden tour and plant sale as separate events (2 project managers), perhaps on different days. We could hold the plant sale before garden tour, which would allow us to sell garden tour tickets at the sale. We need to announce at the general meeting that we need homes, leaders and workers. Shirley will send the interest survey to the board.
9. Children’s Garden 2011: The Children’s Garden will not be moving to the DiG this year.
10. Demo Garden/The DiG – Cindy Reese: A report was provided. Two vegetable beds have been planted. They have volunteers to water the new beds.
11. Proposed: Flower Mound Demo Garden – Wayne was unable to attend.

B. Other Announcements/Discussion

1. We need to get more people trained to do tree calls. Jill Peak and Mary will attend a tree stewardship class and then Janie, Mary and Jill plan to do a local class.
2. Mary said that there is a member who would like to attend a specialist class and would apply for the specialist training reimbursement but would need some financial assistance before the class rather than after. Could we consider providing 50% up front if the need arises?

The meeting was adjourned at 12:06 P.M.

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 6, 2010 at 10:00 A.M.