

**DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION  
BOARD MEETING**

**December 1, 2010, 10:00 A. M.  
Zoe Broxson's house, Flower Mound**

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting chairman Linda Williams called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:50 A.M. In attendance were Diane Almand, Zoe Broxson, Susan Cosio, Jenny Estes, Janie Farler, Wally Gehrke, Monique Goodhart, Sue Hudiburgh, Janet Laminack, Diana McMillin, Shirley Manfredi, Mary Morrow, Brenda Wellenreiter, and Linda Williams.
- II. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the November 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 report.
  - i. Shirley suggested that Sandy Read should reimburse the association \$25 this month for a change bag received by the Garden Shoppe in 2009, and Wally (as new Treasurer) should write Sandy a check for that amount in 2011, to balance the annual accounts.
  - ii. There was a discussion about a \$447.88 expense for software needed to produce the Rototeller and the new weekly calendar emails. This expense will be charged to the Publications and Website budgets.
  - iii. The Demo Garden has a net balance of \$2600, which should roll over to next year.The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Linda mentioned that she has talked to Penn State about finding scholarship recipients. She learned that it's best not to go through the scholarship department at the school. Generally schools have systems to do computer matching of recipients with available scholarships, and we need to go to the development people at the school to get our Tom Harpool scholarship in the system. We would probably need to designate a particular school and department each year, but we could rotate it annually.

IV. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Project Administration – Brenda Wellenreiter

The project review meeting went well. Brenda has a list of projects that have submitted continuation forms and budgets for 2011.

B. Nominating Committee – Brenda/Jenny Estes

1. The nominations are complete. Jill Hoenig and Diana Ooten will co-chair programs. Jan Hodson will chair technology, with Wally as backup and Sue as second backup.
2. We are set for the election of new officers at the Christmas party.

C. Ways and Means – Sandy Read

1. Sandy was unable to attend. She sent a report to Linda: we have \$1000 in wholesale inventory.
2. Monique offered to donate a case of Aqua Globes for door prizes, etc.

D. Communications – Janie Farler

Nothing new this month.

E. Programs – Carol Fitch

Carol was unable to attend. Dotty Woodson will be the speaker at the February meeting.

F. Member-at-Large – Zoe Broxson:

Zoe has summarized the results of the vote at the last general meeting prioritizing ideas from the survey and retreat. #1 was more road trips. (Jenny has an idea for April: Weston Gardens.) #2 was a procedure for succession and mentoring of new leaders. #3 was project manuals for big projects. #4 was an online hours reporting form to download and update (in .doc format). Janet said the state might be developing something online. It was mentioned that Harris County has a nice online form.

Zoe said that the vote indicated little interest in having night meetings, but the vote was taken at a day meeting so that might have skewed the results. There is some interest in looking at alternative locations. Also, having detailed information on the calendar is a priority. Next step: decide how to implement the top items. Zoe will schedule a meeting for January.

G. Report by County Coordinator – Janet Laminack

Nothing new this month.

H. Volunteer Coordinator – Donna Wolfe

Donna was unable to attend.

I. Christmas Party – Brenda Wellenreiter

We are ready to go. We do need the PA system and can use its iPod dock for music.

J. Class of 2011—Zoe Broxson

1. Interviews are complete. The class will have 30 members. The first class is Feb 1. We were able to take all who applied, since a few applicants had to withdraw. Zoe has some project managers lined up for brown bag talks, and a standard brown bag format has been defined. Zoe needs to discuss the class budget for next year. Tuition will be \$175/person. We would like to keep the expense for T-shirts (which will include a logo and class year) to \$10.
  2. Work is in progress to develop a testing plan.
- K. Rototeller – Mary Morrow  
Mary sent the latest Rototeller edition out this morning. She also sent out a survey to find out how members like the various Rototeller sections. One new feature: Jill Peak will locate places in the county that need sprucing up and come up with a design plan. Joe Bendzick has a suggested a place that needs work.
- L. Website – Mary/Sue/Janie
1. Janie said that she is having problems with the home page and not having much luck working with our contact at A&M to resolve it.
  2. Sue said the board meeting minutes for this year are now on the website. Sue mentioned that she has hardcopy records of the 2010 board meetings and asked if we want to store them at the Extension office. Archives of previous years are in the resource room, so Sue will put the records in a notebook there.
- V. ANNOUNCEMENTS/GROUP DISCUSSION
- A. Demonstration Garden
1. The fundraiser went well. A standard meeting time for Dig planning meetings has been established: Wednesday after each board meeting.
  2. The DiG team will be working with the Children’s Garden team, in anticipation of moving the Children’s Garden to the DiG in 2012. Liability, requirements, safety, etc. need to be considered. The DiG may be a possible site for the plant sale.
  3. The next work day is December 10, a continuation of the lasagna gardening project and greenhouse build.
- B. IBM Grant – Sue Hudiburgh – Cindy Reese
1. The grant has been approved for \$1000, for a tool shed and rainwater harvesting equipment for the DiG.
  2. Zoe is looking for grant writers. Shirlee Singer is interested. It was mentioned that CoServ has a 2-day class on grant writing. Zoe went to the grant-writing presentation at the state meeting last April.
- C. Awards – Nominees
1. Voting for awards is to take place at the Christmas Party. If anyone wants a copy of the ballot, please send, and ask that ballots be returned to Linda.
  2. Projects for State Awards and Others: we need to think about these, too.
  3. Mary will order plaques for the awards. We will go with same award items as last year.
- D. Graduation events
1. Decorations, invitations, awards, and graduation certificates are needed. The event will be January 12th at Celebrations. Jennifer at Celebrations is the contact. Susan Cosio, Sue Hudiburgh, and Monique Goodhart volunteered to test the possible menu.
  2. Mary is working on decorations and take-away gifts/door prizes. Mary will send written invitations to the graduates and special guests, and Evites to everyone else.
  3. Jon Briggs, Stephanie Briggs’ husband, will speak.
- E. Adele Petty/Leah Knack/Marty Wall – Project with Seed Balls  
Adele, Leah, and Marty have been making seed balls and would like to sell them at meetings and donate the proceeds to the organization, with the board’s okay. Since it’s a donation, it was agreed that would be fine.
- F. Invasive Plants – Sue Hudiburgh  
Marilyn Sallee mentioned to Sue at the last general meeting that her organization does longer workshops on invasive plants for the public and is always looking for organizations to provide a place and publicity. Sue will give the information to Monique.
- VI. OPEN DISCUSSION
- A. December 4 is the next state meeting at College Station. Linda won’t be in town, and asked if anyone is interested. TXMG will pay mileage or gas. We also have a budget item to reimburse. Only delegates (two) can vote, but anyone can go. There are 3 per year—one at convention, one in August, and one in December.
- B. President’s Volunteer Service Award. Sue said it looks as though we can order the awards we need in bulk, but may need to order a minimum of 25. It was agreed that it would be good to hand out awards at graduation—or at least we can announce those who qualify. We’d need to ask that all hours be turned in soon, so we can order before Christmas. Janet will send out an email asking that all hours be in by the next meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> to be counted for the award. Sue will tally and order the awards, and there may be an intern who needs hours to assist.
- C. Bring a dish and a toy to the Christmas party.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 5, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.