

DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION

BOARD MEETING

July 6, 2011 10:00 A.M.

County Extension Office

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting chairman Jenny Estes called the Board of Directors meeting to order at 10:05 A.M. In attendance were Diane Almand, Zoe Broxson, Sharon Coleman, Susan Cosio, Jenny Estes, Wally Gehrke, Monique Goodhart, Sue Hudiburgh, Karen Jackson, Janet Laminack, Larry Legg, Diana McMillin, Kay Tomberlin, Linda Williams, and Donna Wolfe. Secretary Laurel Wallace was unable to attend, so minutes were taken by Sue Hudiburgh.
- II. **MINUTES:** Minutes for the June 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. Wally Gehrke reviewed the report. We currently have a balance of approximately \$19,500 in our checking account. Wally pointed out that the Hospitality committee budget (\$150) was set arbitrarily low at the beginning of the year, and should be increased due to additional activity and responsibility. It was moved, seconded, discussed and approved that the hospitality committee may go over budget.

Wally noted that Denton Farm Bureau donated \$300 for the DiG. He said he will be looking into a way to accept credit cards for future events such as the Garden Tour and Plant Sale.

The Treasurers Report was accepted as presented and will be filed for audit.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Project Administration – Diane Almand

- The Veggie Show had 14 adult entrants (52 entries), and 15 youth (44 entries). Ask a Master Gardener booth had lots of questions and people came prepared with plant samples. Diane said that the city had agreed to pay for the ribbons, so we need to look into getting reimbursed. Due to the windy day, we had additional expense for cinder blocks and heavier plates. It was suggested that we store the blocks in the shed at the DiG. Diane is trying to get the city of residence of each winner for publicity.
- We have a new project initiation form for the Herb Study Group from Connie Watts and Marti Wall. It was moved, seconded, discussed and approved that the Herb Study Group become an official project.

B. Communications – Susan Cosio

- Susan has reviewed, updated, and reformatted the handbook, and Zoe has reviewed it. It was suggested that we review it once a year. In addition to corrections and clarifications, changes were made to the following sections:
 - Grant committee was added.
 - Technology committee was moved under the Education Director.
 - Under Communications, added Signage, Documentation and Publications.
- Monique had questions about inactive members—how to become active again. She suggested that we clarify that.
- It was suggested that we be consistent in references to “Agent Laminack” or the “Horticulture Agent” for clarity.
- It was noted that “discretionary AT” is new, but “discretionary volunteer hours” is not.
- We need to clarify Hospitality committee responsibilities (see below).

C. Education Committee – Monique Goodhart

- Jacqueline Carney was unable to attend, so it was decided to table discussion of the Children's Garden until later.
- Zoe said that the 2012 class planning committee will meet tomorrow. Zoe has received 27 surveys from 2011 interns, all of which met or exceeded expectations. Fees need to be determined, considering cost recovery and anticipated expense increases, and a preliminary schedule drafted.
- SWaT report: very successful, with 33 teachers graduating L1, and 8 completing L2.

D. County Coordinator - Janet Laminack: Nothing to report at this time.

E. Volunteer Coordinator – Donna Wolfe: Nothing to report at this time.

F. Report from Hospitality – Diana McMillan

- There was discussion about when to send cards or flowers. Jenny suggested that we add a policy to our handbook. Linda said that historically we sent flowers for death of member or immediate family, and cards otherwise.
- The discussion was tabled. Jenny, Clarice, Diana, Donna, Linda and Larry will get together and come up with a policy to put in the handbook by the August meeting.
- There was discussion about printing vs. buying cards for hospitality. It was agreed that Susan's expenses for ink for printing cards could be put under hospitality.

G. Report from Scholarship

Scholarship presentation will be ready for the July meeting. Teddy Bloechle is the recipient.

VI. **ANNOUNCEMENTS – GROUP DISCUSSION**

A. Report on JMG Specialist Training Online and Formstack – Sue Hudiburgh

- We have 7 people signed up for JMG training so far.
- It was moved, seconded and approved to upgrade Formstack to professional level to allow additional forms to be converted to online. This expense will fall under the website budget.

B. Fall Garden Festival Report – Linda Williams

The next meeting is tomorrow. The location will be DBC. Speakers being finalized and vendors are signing up. Good shape overall.

Linda said that Upper Trinity has a need for docents to explain plants and the history of the gardens. Girl Scouts may come through soon (July 19?) and a teachers tour on September 20. Linda would like permission to recruit. The Board agreed. Donna will put out an email.

C. Report on January graduation banquet – Diana McMillin

There has been some research on sites. Jenny asked that Joe, Connie Johnson and Diana get together to discuss. The date is January 11, 2012.

D. IBM Grant: Who should receive for next year? Zoe has a list. Some suggestions:

Enviroscape (\$1400); Design committee could use software for landscape design and to share with the public; Something to promote children's education for SWaT or the Children's Garden; Screen for the Speakers' Bureau; Interpretive signs for the DiG; Something for the Enabling garden.

E. Survey Approval – Zoe Broxson

Zoe handed out a proposed annual member survey. Donna asked that we ask why expectations were not met, if they were not. The Board decided to go ahead with the survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 P.M.

Next meeting: Wednesday August 3, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.