

**HMGA BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
March 4, 2009**

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Ann Dutton at 11:38 a.m.

Minutes: The minutes had previously been received by all board members and committee chair members, and were approved.

Reports from Committees/ Officers:

Treasurer: Beverly Cochrane reported \$2,181.19 in the checking account.

Vice President:

1st Vice President: Ann reported for Erica Gilliam that Karen Carter will give a presentation on April 8th to the association that was presented to the Board on February 11th regarding collaboration between the extension office and master gardeners. It was also discussed whether Pat Greene could host the plant exchange in May. A tour of Mike Lockett's garden was discussed for possibly early May.

2nd Vice President: Suzanne Pericle is working on rescheduling the tree identification class with Dave Schnake.

Corresponding Secretary: Shelby Earehart sent a thank you note to Joel Koci and a sympathy card to Patricia Schultz.

Master Gardener Training: Jim Smith reported the trainee class on March 3rd has been rescheduled to April 2nd due to the snow storm. He also reported midterms had been passed out and that plant clinics will start on April 4th at the Wal-Mart on Brook Rd.

Helpline: Gwen Hipp reported all trainees with the exception of one have set their time, but that there were no trainers for Mondays and Fridays.

Communications: Brenda Orton reported on public relations events so far in getting master gardeners recognition for all they do, as well as the county extension office and its services. There have recently been articles in the Richmond Times Dispatch, highlighting Erica Gilliam and preparing the garden for spring and an article on the hypertufa, which featured three master gardeners. There will be an emphasis on getting all upcoming events, or any classes given by master gardeners placed in the Bulletin Board in the Home and Garden Section of the Richmond Times Dispatch. As of March 6th the Weed Control Program Series being offered starting March 10th thru March 12th will be in the Bulletin Board.

Service and Recognition: Joyce Brannon circulated the Richmond Times Dispatch article on hypertufa.

S.M.A.R.T. Lawns:

JMG: Faye Derkits reported things are picking up at Lakeside, starting last Monday and there are three preschools scheduled in April, and a class at Armour House in April.

Special Events: Judy Burton reported the Home Show is filled for March 6th through 8th. Stranges' is April 4th and 5th. There are still openings for the 1:30-5 slot on Saturday and 10-1:30 on Sunday.

Finance:

Hospitality:

Extension Report:

Old Business: John Sartin reported on trying to fill all co chair positions of committees for the Harvest Fair and will talk about the budget for the fair at the next meeting. He also talked about time sheets and a deadline set for getting hours in to Joyce. Lisa said she had to check to see if the extension office had the authority to tell those volunteers who do not turn their time sheets in by mid-January, that they could lose their hours. She will then send out an email to everyone reminding them to get their hours in to Joyce in a timely manner.

Ann asked Peggy Lowry about the emeritus to Lou Weissbecker, which Peggy confirmed will be sent to his wife.

Lisa stated that all head shots are completed and turned over to Angela who is working on completing the master gardener directory.

Beverly reported to date there are 29 master gardeners and 7 nonmembers signed up for the April 1st trip to Brent & Becky's. She also explained that the bus size should be reduced from 55 to 44 seat accommodation at a lower cost because of the number of sign-ups so far. There was a motion to proceed to get the smaller bus, which was seconded and approved.

New Business: Ann announced Brenda Orton will chair the Nominating Committee, who will give a report in May. Dave Brobst sent a report to Ann regarding plant clinics, which include the Wal-Mart on Brook Rd. He will come to do a presentation before the trainees on March 17th instead of April 2nd. It was discussed that plant clinic boxes need to be updated.

The next board meeting will be April 8th at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room. **Please note this change.**

In Attendance: Peggy Lowry, Joyce Brannon, Beverly Cochrane, Brenda Orton, Ann Dutton, Jim Smith, John Sartin, Judy Burton, Shelby Earehart, Mary E. Vetrovec, Lisa Sanderson, Suzanne Pericle and Gwen Hipp.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm.

Reported by Brenda Orton, Recording Secretary