

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19th, 2009
**ANNUAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

Spazio Bistro
Comfort Inn & Conference Center Westport/St. Louis
12031 Lackland Rd
Maryland Heights, MO 63146
314-576-0488

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6PM (Craig Pisarkiewicz)**
- 2) Board of Directors in Attendance:**
 - President: **Craig Pisarkiewicz**, MPR Supply Company*
 - President Elect and Board Member: **Jennifer Schamber**, Greenscape Gardens*
 - Vice President and Board Member: **Josh Hetley**, Greenleaf Nursery*
 - Secretary: **Lance Dauw**, Tomasovic Greenhouses and Nursery*
 - Treasurer: **Bill Ruppert**, National Nursery Products-St. Louis*
 - Immediate Past President: **Sandi McDonald**, Hillermann Nursery & Florist*
 - Board Member: **Chris Becker**, GardenWorks!*
 - Board Member: **Jamie Granger**, Back to Nature Farms*
 - Board Member: **Tonya O'Connell**, T&T Gardens*
 - Board Member: **Barry Ritter**, Ritter Perennials*
- 3) Welcome/Opening Comments (Craig Pisarkiewicz)**
- 4) Voted to suspend the "Robert's Rules of Order" requirement for this meeting. (Craig Pisarkiewicz)**
- 5) Membership Committee (Jennifer Schamber)**
 - a. We met our goal of 10 new members for 2009.
 - b. Recommended we set a goal of 10 new members for 2010.
- 6) Scholarship and Education Committee (Jamie Granger)**
 - a. The St. Louis Community College Continuing Education "Landscaping for Homeowners" class is cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Lots of classes at the college are cancelled, due to the decline in enrollment.
 - b. Suggested to look into new avenues for promoting our class.
- 7) Public Relations and Marketing Committee (Bill Ruppert)**
 - a. Looking for ways to promote the association and website at a professional level.
 - a. Discussion of The Gateway Gardener 2010 Advertising Proposal
 - b. Discussion of the St. Louis Business Journal 2010 Advertising Proposal
- 8) Community Enhancement Committee (Jennifer Schamber)**
 - a. We received good feedback from the Community Enhancement Surveys promoted in 2009 to the membership.
 - b. Habitat for Humanity in St. Louis had a good year and a good showing of students from St. Louis Community College at Meramec. More volunteers would be appreciated.
- 9) History Committee (2009-Bill Ruppert/Robert Weaver)**
 - a. We will continue to collect historical information about the association, adding to the collection started for our 75th Anniversary year (2008).

10) Bylaws Committee

- a. The bi-annual review of the Constitution will happen this year.

11) Nomination Committee (Sandi McDonald/Mike Rood) – No Report.

12) Horticulture Co-op Representation – No Report.

13) Finance and Audit Committee (Craig Pisarkiewicz)

- a. It was recommended that we join a professional business and/or social website to help promote the association and website.
- b. Discussion of 2009 Budget and Financial Summary
- c. Only \$460.00 of the budgeted amount of \$750.00 was spent for the Hort Co-op Holiday Gathering in December. The Board recommends reducing the budgeted amount of \$750.00 to \$500.00 for the 2010 budget. (See Expenses – Meetings/Programs)
- d. The budgeted amount of \$175.00 for materials for the continuing education class was unspent, due to the cancellation of the class. As the class has been cancelled again for Spring 2010, the Board recommends cutting this amount out of the budget for 2010. (See Expenses – Education Support)
- e. The budgeted amount of \$1,000.00 for the Tower Grove Park tree inventory guide was unspent in 2009. The Board recommends cutting this amount out of the budget for 2010. (See Expenses – Special Projects)
- f. The Association will buy a quarter page color ad for 4 months in The Gateway Gardener Magazine. The total cost of this ad will cost the Association \$1,400.00 for 2010. The total cost of the three previous reductions/cuts to the budget, in the amount of \$1,425.00, will be applied to the Marketing – Advertising/Promotion budgeted item to offset the cost of this ad. The new Marketing – Advertising/Promotion Budget Expense will be increased from \$1,000.00 to \$2,425.00.
- g. Discussion and approval of 2010 budget recommendations for submittal to the membership for vote at the February meeting.
- h. The audit committee for 2010 will be chaired again by Lance, with Sandi and Jennifer serving on the committee.

14) Program Committee (Jennifer Schamber)

- a. Formation and discussion of the meeting program schedule for 2010. The following is a tentative schedule for the 2010 year:

1. FEBRUARY (PAST PRESIDENT'S NIGHT), Monday, 02/08/10

Subject/Title: "New Strategies for Marketing"

Speaker: 3 Degrees, Inc. representing Ameren's Pure Power Program

Location: Pietro's Restaurant, St. Louis, MO

Organizer: Jennifer

2. MARCH, Monday, 03/08/10

Subject/Title: After Hours Reception

Speaker:

Location: Hummert's International, Earth City, MO

Organizer: Bill

3. JUNE (FAMILY PICNIC), Wednesday, 06/16/10

Subject/Title:

Speaker:

Location: Shaw Nature Reserve, Gray Summit, MO

Organizer: Barry

4. JULY

Subject/Title: Botanical Tour of St. Louis Zoo

Speaker: Tony Range

Location: St. Louis Zoo, St. Louis, MO

Organizer: Lance

5. AUGUST (NURSERY DAY), 08/12/10

Subject/Title:

Speaker:

Location: Missouri Botanical Garden – Kemper Center

Organizer:

6. SEPTEMBER (HORT CO-OP SHORT COURSE), 09/09/10

Subject/Title:

Speaker:

Location:

Organizer:

7. OCTOBER (STUDENT NIGHT)

Subject/Title:

Speaker: SWT Design

Location: SWT Design, St. Louis, MO

Organizer: Bill

8. NOVEMBER (ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING)

Subject/Title:

Speaker:

Location: Pietro's Restaurant, St. Louis, MO

Organizer: Craig

14) Formation of Committees (Craig Pisarkiewicz)

a. **Program Committee**

Committee Chair: Jennifer (President Elect)

Committee Member: Board of Directors

b. **Finance and Audit Committee**

Committee Chair: Craig (President)

Committee Member: Bill (Treasurer-Advisory)

Committee Member and Audit Committee Chair: Lance

Committee Member and Audit Committee Member: Sandi

Committee Member and Audit Committee Member: Jennifer

c. **Membership Committee**

Committee Chair: Jennifer (President Elect)

Committee Member(s):

- d. **Scholarship and Education Committee**
Committee Chair: Jamie
Committee Member(s):
 - e. **Public Relations and Marketing Committee**
Committee Chair: Bill
Committee Member(s):
 - f. **Community Enhancement Committee**
Committee Chair: Jennifer
Committee Member(s):
 - g. **History Committee**
Committee Joint Chair: Bill Ruppert
Committee Joint Chair: Robert Weaver
Committee Member: Sandi
 - h. **Bylaws Committee**
Committee Chair:
Committee Member(s):
 - i. **Nomination Committee**
Committee Joint Chair: Sandi (Immediate Past President)
Committee Joint Chair: Mike Rood (Former Past President)
 - j. **Horticulture Co-op Representation**
Representative(s):
- 15) New Business**
- a. The 40th Anniversary of the national Earth Day will be on April 22nd. On April 24th, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources will be holding their Earth Day at the Missouri State Capitol south lawn. The Association is invited.
 - b. There was a discussion of guidelines and moderation of future discussions within the Association. Discussion should focus on the "issues" affecting our industry, and not pertaining to political and/or religious opinions.
- 16) Industry Events**
- a. Annual MPR Contractor Meeting at the Graphics Communication Center on Feb 3rd.
 - b. Please check the Associate website for a full listing of industry events.
- 17) Meeting Adjourned at 8PM. (Craig Pisarkiewicz)**