

MONDAY, MARCH 8th, 2010

MARCH MEETING

PAST PRESIDENTS' NIGHT

Program: "Hort-Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes! Missouri's Horticultural Past & Our Bright Future"

Presentation by Hummert International featuring Dr. Steve Millet
Hummert International
Earth City, MO

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

- 1) Meeting called to order at 6:40PM. Roll call (via attendance sign-in sheet)
(Craig Pisarkiewicz)
- 2) Welcome/Opening Comments (Craig Pisarkiewicz)
 - a. Paula of Commerce Bank (member and financial administrative support of MNLA) spoke.
- 3) Membership voted to suspend the "Robert's Rules of Order" requirement for this meeting (Craig Pisarkiewicz)
- 4) Membership voted to waive the "Order of Business" outlined in Bylaws (Craig Pisarkiewicz)
- 5) Introduction of Past Presidents (Craig Pisarkiewicz)
John Masek, 1961
Dan Christie, 1978
Robert Dintelmann, 1970; 1980
Sandi McDonald, 1982; 1983; 2009
Bill Ruppert, 2003, 2004
Gary Hinegardner, 2007
- 6) Introduction of 2010 Board of Directors (Craig Pisarkiewicz)
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: Jamie Granger, Back to Nature Farms
Board Member: Chris Becker, GardenWorks!
Board Member: Tonya O'Connell, T&T Gardens
Board Member: Barry Ritter, Ritter Perennials
- 7) Formation of Committees (Craig Pisarkiewicz)
 - a. Committees for 2010—sign-up sheets passed around
- 8) Secretary Report (Lance Dauw)
 - a. No comments were reported by the membership regarding the minutes from the November meeting. Members can visit the website for the minutes from the previous

meeting.

- b. Minutes from the Board Meeting held in January are available on the website.
- c. First Readings of applications for membership (applications available upon request):
 - 1. Associate: **Lawn Revolution** (Landscape Construction/Professional Land Care), House Springs, MO (Jared Caplinger)
 - 2. Honorary: **Chad Follis**, Horticulture Instructor at Mineral Area College-Park Hills, MO
 - 3. Active: **Timberline Landscapes, LLC** (Landscape Designer/Construction/Professional Land Care), Maplewood, MO (Brian Pfothenhauer)
- d. Second Readings of applications for membership (applications available upon request):
 - 1. Active: **Anna Nursery** (Production Nursery (Wholesale)), Cobden, IL (Sandy Anderson)
 - 2. Active: **Linnemann Lawn Care & Landscaping, Inc.** (Landscaping/Lawn Care), Columbia, IL (Adam Linnemann)
- e. Voted to accept 2nd Reading Applicants as members.

9) Program Committee (Jennifer Schamber)

- a. Review of 2010 Meeting/Program Schedule

10) Membership Committee (Jennifer Schamber) – no report.

11) Scholarship and Education Committee (Jamie Granger)

- a. Adult Ed class is at Kirkwood H.S. The sessions are now four weeks instead of six. Invitations for instructors will be emailed to the membership.

12) Public Relations and Marketing Committee (Bill Ruppert) – no report.

13) Community Enhancement Committee (Jennifer Schamber) – no report.

14) History Committee (Bill Ruppert/Robert Weaver) – no report.

15) Horticulture Co-op Representation Report (Jennifer Schamber)

- a. Short Course will be held this year on September 9th.

16) Bylaws Committee

- a. The bi-annual review of the Constitution will happen this year. Volunteers will be requested later in the year.

17) Treasurer Report (Bill Ruppert)

- a. There were twice as many non-renewals with membership dues as last year (short \$825.00.) The Board will make phone calls to delinquent members.
- b. Review of 2010 budget
- c. 2009 Budget and Financial Status may be reviewed on the website.
- d. Presentation of 2010 budget as recommended by the Board.
 - 1. 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)
 - 2. The budgeted amount of \$175.00 for materials for the continuing education class was unspent, due to the cancellation of the class. The Board recommends cutting this amount out of the budget for 2010. (See Expenses – Education Support)
 - 3. 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)
 - 4. 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.

5. Due to the proposed tour of Forest Park in July, the Board recommends changing the budget item “Fall Tour” to just “Tour”. The Board also recommends increasing the budgeted amount to \$375.00, to allow for a donation to Forest Park for the tour (proposed \$7.00 per person). (See Expenses – Meetings/Programs)

17) Finance and Audit Committee (Craig Pisarkiewicz)

- a. Voted to accept 2010 budget
- b. Audit Committee (Lance Dauw)
 1. Summary of 2009 internal audit of finances: Approved by committee.

18) New Business

- a. The RCGA (St. Louis Regional Chamber & Growth Association) held their Environmental and Energy Council seminar series at Washington University. Topics included the study of how photosynthesis of plants could be used as a renewable energy source. (Bill Ruppert)
- b. The RCGA held a seminar with representatives from MODOT and HNTB, giving a joint presentation on a Landscape Sponsorship Program for the new I-64. MODOT is looking for St. Louis area companies to do the landscaping and maintenance of the new interchanges developed in the reconstruction of I-64. Our industry could use joint efforts by corporate leaders to get our names and businesses into the private and corporate sect worlds by getting involved with this. (Bill Ruppert)
- c. The Environmental Sustainability Task Force and Focus St. Louis created the “Environmental Sustainability Roadmap: A Toolkit for Local Governments” in 2009. The chapter entitled “Open Spaces” was of particular interest to our association and industry. Bill asked for our professional assistance for feedback (guidance) to improve our image as a whole. The LNAAGSL voted to represent our local horticulture industry to make an official statement. (Bill Ruppert)
- d. The Hort Co-op is sponsoring the “Power of Plants” Tour for the First Lady of Missouri in June. The First Lady, Georgeann Nixon, will make four stops and meet with representatives from our industry. (Bill Ruppert)
- e. “Project GO! Green Job Training”, in partnership with Gateway Greening, received a USDA grant to train St. Patrick Center clients for jobs in the green industry. (Bill Ruppert)
- f. Dan Christie, Owner of Metropolitan Forestry Services, was awarded a 2010 Merit Award. Presented by Tim Gamma, of Gamma Tree Experts and President of the ISA.
- g. Susan Ehlenbeck, Plant Protection Specialist, gave report of Japanese beetles found in Colorado. No emerald ash borer infestations found yet in Missouri.

19) Industry Events

- a. **Greener Stormwater Solutions: A Review of the Updated MSD Stormwater Guide**, Native Plant School-Professional Landscaping Series at Alberici Headquarters, Mar. 10-11th, 2010, Overland, MO
- b. **Healthy Yards for Clear Streams**, Mar. 11th & Mar. 18th, University of Missouri Extension Center, St. Peter’s, MO

- c. **2010 Missouri Community Forestry Council Annual Conference** Mar. 16th-18th, 2010, Chesterfield Doubletree Hotel, Chesterfield, MO
- d. **GPHA Miller Horticultural Wholesale Warehouse Open House**, Mar. 25th, 2010, St. Louis, MO
- e. **Pond-O-Rama**, a self guided pond and garden tour, will be held in June. Sponsored by the St. Louis Water Gardening Society
- f. **Moonlight Pond Tour**, presented by Nature's Re-Creations, will be held in October.
- g. **Midwest Grape & Wine Conference**, was held in February at Tan-Tar-A Resort, Lake of the Ozarks.

20) Next Meeting/Program

- a. Wednesday, June 16th "An Evening at Shaw Nature Reserve"
(Open to all members of the Hort Co-op of Metro St. Louis)
Enjoy "Drinks & Eats" and mingle with your horticulture friends.

21) Meeting Adjourned at 7:30PM.