



MINUTES

Thursday – June 14, 2007

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM

TBG - Terrace Room

Members of Advisory Group

Dick Bostdorff

Michael Carroll

Tom Creque

Bill Dearing

Beth Fausey

Theresa Hoen

Tony Keil

Walt Krueger

Joe Perlaky

Lindsay Potts

Neil Reid

Tom Wardell

- Dean Krauskopf called the meeting to order at 8:07 am
- Attendance: (19)
 - Neil Reid, Bob Feldstein, Jeff Creque, Joe Perlaky, Bill Dearing, Dean Krauskopf, Sandy Knitz, Dick Bostdorff, Kirk Mizerek, Jim Locke, Tom Wardell, Will Burns, Scott Leisner, Mike Carroll, Paula Ross, Judy McFarland, Lara Burkett and Walt Krueger.
- Old Business:
 - Jan Hunter reported on the *rain garden initiative* in Lucas County. <http://www.raingardeninitiative.org/>
- Discussion: MVG sustainability (long-term)
 - The opportunity to expand our current gas purchasing program statewide was presented by Kirk Mizerek of Palmer Energy. Both the Ohio Farm Bureau and Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association (OLLCA) have shown interest in our program and indicated possible assistance or even joining the group. The consensus of those attending today's meeting was to continue our due diligence efforts regarding this opportunity. Other questions to be resolved:
 - Use of MVG logo (retail & wholesale)
 - Ability to expand into Michigan if asked
 - Strategic rollout concerns
 - General operational and program management questions
 - Funding steam
 - Contract commitments (between who and how long)
 - Endorsement letters
 - How does this effect UT and MVG grant relationship
 - Other energy purchasing opportunities such as propane, electric etc.

- A new MVG entity would need to be set up to administer the gas purchasing program if it expands statewide. Sandy Knitz made a motion to authorize the formation of a separate organizational entity for the purpose of expanding our regional gas purchasing program to a statewide outreach. Walt Krueger seconded the motion. There was unanimous approval by those growers present. It was suggested that members of the Advisory Group research the pros and cons of a profit (LLC) and non-profit association and make a recommendation to the membership group at large.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 am.

Minutes submitted by Joe Perlaky.

The next meeting is Aug 9
8:00 am
Toledo Botanical Gardens