



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

**August 6, 2009
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM**

***Toledo Botanical Garden
Stables Room***

Meeting called order at 8:03 am

Attendance (11)

Joe Perlaky, Dick Bostdorff, Tom Wardell, Serenity Carr, Kirk Mizerek, Theresa Hoen, Jeff Creque, Beth Fausey, Paula Ross, Lynn Biltz & Wade Smith.

Committee Reports:

- Energy – Information and transcripts from natural gas advisory committee meetings will soon be available on the Palmer Energy website. Minutes prepared by Anne Schenk of Palmer Energy would be dispersed through Joe within one week of the monthly conference call meeting (first Friday of every month at 10 am). Mid-month correspondence will be soon begin acknowledging progress of recommended action items of the gas program. Joe stated that MVGA has partnered with ONLA on gas and they now have a new interim Director. The next ONLA Gas Committee meeting will be Friday September 25th 10:00-2:00.
- Electricity - Kirk stated that most people will get 5% back on the price of their electric usage. Palmer Energy will give back 25% of the fee charged to MVGA. Next week there will be another letter (third) sent to the growers reminding them of the electricity program.
- Recycling – Joe stated that Findley Forms, a newly developing company is interested in MVGA’s recycling business. They may be at our next regular to field questions.
- Events - Serenity reported that MVGA did not participate in the Lucas County fair this year due to lack of interest from the growers and the fact it required a 6 day commitment. Although there was interest in taking part in the NW OH Rib-Off, costs associate with participation prevented our involvement.
- Treasurer – The Finance Committee met on July 30, 2009. Joe reported that the current checkbook balance is \$20,778.12. Account Receivables are \$1,436.00. There have been several discussions regarding ideas, programs, or projects that might generate cash flow for MVGA in addition to the energy programs. The committee will recommend a portion of grant dollars be invested toward hiring a grant writer to seed this effort.

- 2009 -

Board of Directors

Dick Bostdorff

(President)
(*Gov. Relations)
2010

Jeff Creque

(Business)
2011

Bill Dearing

(*Membership)
2010

Bob Dennis

(Business)
2010

Beth Fausey

(*Education)
(Membership)
2011

Diane Hill

(Treasurer)
(*Finance)
2009

Theresa Hoen

(Secretary)
(Marketing)
(Membership)
2011

Tony Keil

(Marketing)
2009

Walt Krueger

(President Elect)
(Programs)
2011

Kirk Mizerek

(Finance)
(Programs)
2010

Neil Reid

(*Gov. Relations)
(Finance)
2011

Tom Wardell

(*Marketing)
2009

Kathy Wenz

(Membership)
2009

Terms Expire End of Year
Indicated

(* Denotes Chairman)

Dick stated that he thinks government grants may disappear. He will be presenting a contingency plan for budgetary needs for 2010-2011 in October.

Joe stated that some members want to have more discussions regarding the activation of the \$100 membership fee. Dick stated that paying a fee will cement the organization, and distinguish who is a member. There was also discussion of whether a fee is required when an organization is federally grant funded. Dick will appoint a small committee to review our current bylaws and bring forth update recommendations if necessary at our next Board meeting in September.

A motion was made by Jeff Creque to start paying the \$100 membership dues. It was seconded by Tom Wardell with unanimous approval. The Bylaw Committee will review the language associated with the membership fee structure.

- Education – Beth stated that the Education Committee met last month. There will be another “clicker” questionnaire of approximately 10 questions on Marketing and Production to be given at the August regular grower meeting.

Beth has been working with ONLA Short Course Greenhouse Track. There is interest for someone to make a presentation on alternative energy in greenhouse production.

TAFGA Mud Hens game is on Sunday.

Neil met an individual from the Czech Republic regarding possible fall foliage export. There is an interest in NW Ohio exporting shrubs (those with color) not available in their country. Grower input is needed as this opportunity is evaluated.

Paula mentioned that the MVGA calendar designer may be able to attend the regular grower meeting next Thursday to gain consensus on photos to use. If she is unable to attend, a CD may be submitted with photos on it.

- Government Relations – No report.
- Marketing – Tom reported that he and Joe are working on a PowerPoint presentation to recap MVGA marketing efforts for the past year. This presentation will feature comparison of website hits and marketing efforts.

The Marketing Committee has also been working with Beth on a short clicker advertising survey and other information such as designating part of the website for wholesaler awareness.

- Membership Committee – Wade presented an example of a draft “front cover” of our MVGA Membership Directory. The Directory will be completed by the end of September after elections are completed.

Jeff made a motion to hold the MVGA Annual Meeting on September 17th from 6-9 pm. The motion was seconded by Kirk. The \$100 membership dues will be due on this date. There will be no monthly meeting held on September 10th.

- An Annual Meeting Committee has been assembled. It will consist of Paula, Joe, Dick, Beth, and Theresa.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:00 am

Minutes submitted by Serenity Carr