



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MINUTES

October 1, 2009
 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
*Toledo Botanical Garden
 Stables Room*

<p>- 2009 - <u>Board of Directors</u></p>
<p>Dick Bostdorff 2010</p>
<p>Jeff Creque 2011</p>
<p>Bill Dearing 2010</p>
<p>Bob Dennis 2010</p>
<p>Beth Fausey 2011</p>
<p>Diane Hill 2009</p>
<p>Theresa Hoen 2011</p>
<p>Tony Keil 2009</p>
<p>Walt Krueger 2011</p>
<p>Kirk Mizerek 2010</p>
<p>Neil Reid 2011</p>
<p>Tom Wardell 2009</p>
<p>Kathy Wenz 2009</p>
<p>Terms Expire End of Year Indicated</p>

Meeting called order at 8:06 am

Attendance (12)

Joe Perlaky, Dick Bostdorff, Tom Wardell, Serenity Carr, Kirk Mizerek, Theresa Hoen, Walt Krueger, Bob Dennis, Wade Smith, Diane Hill, Neil Reid & Bill Dearing.

Committee Reports:

- President – Dick Bostdorff thanked all those involved with the annual meeting. There was a discussion regarding new member committee assignments. Joe asked whether newly elected committee members should begin serving in January or after our Annual Meeting in September. The bylaws state January but from a practical sense after the annual meeting may work better. Most felt that beginning in January would give newly elected members more on-the-job knowledge. The bylaws committee will review this situation.
- Education- No report.
- Finance– Serenity Carr reimbursed MVGA for the 2 pay periods MVGA advanced to her as a result of delays in The University of Toledo’s payroll system.

Revenue for the Annual Meeting was \$840. Costs were \$963.81. Palmer Energy contributed towards the beverages. Neil was reimbursed for his pre-payment of those beverage expenses.

There was \$16.00 of IGS account flows from July.

MVGA’s checking account balance is \$25,524.71.

- Membership- Wade Smith submitted a \$625 bill for graphic design for the membership catalog. Advertising commitments will be pursued and are needed prior to layout. All advertising commitments are needed by the end of October. This will allow time for Board approval by the December 4th print date. Wade made a recommendation to open advertising opportunities up to everyone such as all wholesale, retail, and agri-businesses. Walt Krueger proposed that membership and advertising mailings go out to everyone on Serenity's comprehensive list of growers, suppliers, nursery, landscape, academic and administrative members.

The membership catalog will contain extensive information on dues, lists of MVGA officers and committee structure and members etc. The catalog is contextually finished, advertiser commitments are the only items left to be pursued.

Walt questioned if the calendars should be distributed as part of the membership kit or when dues are paid.

Bill Dearing stated that the November vote FOR Issue 2 regarding Animal Husbandry needed to be addressed. There is a lobbying group in strong opposition. Bill stated that voters must vote "Yes" to keep control and protect the rights of farmers in Ohio.

- Native Plants- Wade reported that a committee meeting had recently been held. The meetings have been informational. Steps are being made toward regular production. Kellie Page, who has guided much of the native plant organization, will be leaving for a position in Ann Arbor, MI. Dick asked if the Wood County Park's Division could become more involved.
- Government/Public Relations- ONLA's Greenhouse Committee met last Friday in their offices in Columbus.

The January 2010 CENT show will feature several topics of discussion at a noon luncheon. This new format will allow growers to visit experts or industrial leaders at different tables within the room. If there are any growers that have topics they want to have discussed, please contact Dick.

ONLA is exploring new approaches to bring together their different committees. Issues and conversations will be recorded. Hopefully, legislative actions will be made in response to these issues.

- Marketing- Tom Wardell reported that the Marketing Committee met last week. It was agreed that MVGA will forego the Fall Program. Returning marketing survey responses has been low with only 4-5 returns so far.

There was a suggestion that growers provide a list of products they grow with their paid membership.

Dick suggested MVGA may need to begin working with wholesalers for advertising. Wholesalers could also start sponsoring advertising for their retailers.

- Business- Walt stated he thought it was an excellent opportunity for MVGA that Dick will be the Chair of the Greenhouse Sub-Committee at the ONLA meeting in January 2010. OSU delivery service will be discussed. Webinars may be used to deliver educational systems.

There will be a meeting requested with ODOT to develop protocol for plantings along highways. ONLA will be lobbying in Columbus.

Cincinnati Department of Sewers received a \$3 million grant to start a rain garden pilot program. Some of these monies may come here for drainage.

There will be a face-to-face Advisory Group natural gas meeting in which Mark Frye, Kirk Mizerek and Dale Arnold will discuss commodity purchasing decisions". The meeting will be held at 10 am tomorrow at TBG.

The September issue of Greenhouse Grower Magazine contains a sustainability article by Delilah Onofrey. She also spoke at our annual meeting.

Joe will contact Missouri Horticulture Plastic Recycling. Requests are down from \$40,000 to \$25,000 to get their recycling program "of the ground". The Missouri Botanical Gardens model is a possible money-making opportunity. Walt and Joe will analyze the feasibility of this issue.

Dick passed around a proposed committee budget of \$55,000, which is a combination of grant and grower co-op contributions. The goal is to challenge MVGA to become self-sustainable.

Theresa made a motion to delay the discussion of the budget as a primary issue until next meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom.

Diane made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded the motion.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:10 am

Minutes submitted by Serenity Carr