



- 2010 -

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

Walt Krueger

(President Elect)
(Programs)
2011

Kirk Mizerek

(Finance)
(Programs)
2010

Neil Reid

(*Gov. Relations)
(Finance)
2011

Mike Shank

(Marketing)
2012

Wade Smith

(*Membership)
(Marketing)
2012

Tom Wardell

(*Marketing)
2009

Terms Expire End of Year
Indicated

(* Denotes Chairman)

MINUTES

Monthly MVG Meeting Thursday – March 11, 2010 8:00-9:30 AM TBG

Dick Bostdorff called the meeting to order at 8:03 am

Attendance: (28)

Joe Perlaky, Bill Dearing, Dick Bostdorff, Serenity Carr, Walt Krueger, Anne Schenk, Matt Brown, Tom Wardell, Paula Ross, Beth Fausey, George Dabrunz, Wade Smith, Max Jeffers, Deb Bettinger, Jeff Creque, Matt Ross, Tony Keil, Jonathan Franz, Neil Reid, Tim Rathburn, Mike Schenk, Jim Locke, Charles Krause, Bob Hornak, Josh Miller, Larry Chandler, Robin Hawkins & Jessica McClure

Committee Reports:

Dick reported the Board of Director's are moving ahead on many fronts, things are going well.

Business – Walt Krueger

- A meeting and possible presentation with Spooner & Associates for an update on worker's compensation was suggested. Joe will follow-up
- Recycling- Jeff Creque

Jeff reported he has been in contact with several recycling companies. **Purpose Green** seems to be the best company to use. Joe will follow-up with proper notices to growers.

- Energy- Anne Schenk

Electricity - Still open for growers to sign up.

Gas - Michigan growers has just locked in until next year. Their program is more predictable with guaranteed savings. The program is open to other organizations, such as churches etc.

Ohio had two conference calls over the last month. 70% of supply was purchased for April and May. June is locked in for 20%. The market is favorable for a long-term purchase. The Board approved buying 20% through May of 2011.

Walt warned everyone to be cautious if solicited by Intercom, who has drastically varying prices

Kirk will address the Columbia Gas situation at next month's meeting

Joe stated that monthly minutes from conference calls will be sent by both email and snail mail.

Education – Beth Fausey

- Charles Krause reported about the Emerging Technology Showcase, sponsored by CIFT. The workshop will feature technology and researcher projects focusing on commercialization opportunities including the environment, energy, and food-related business.
- There was a education roundtable at Wardell's Garden Center, 12 were present
- OFA Grower Council met last month to discuss grower associations to better communicate. A strategic planning session may possibly be scheduled in July.
- There will be open garden-trials in which all grower associations are invited to have a table to share information. More information soon.
- Next month MVG regular meeting will feature an overview of the Belgium trip.
- There will be a bus tour to Canada in September or October highlighting vegetable products. If anyone has suggestions or feedback, contact Beth.
- Dave of GM Pro Magazine would like to feature MVG as a cover story for their July issue. Dave would like feedback about exciting things that MVGA is doing. There is a possibility the Board will be featured on the cover.

Finance – Joe Perlaky

- MVGA wrote Palmer a commission check for \$3359, for two billing cycles.
- Val Pak was issued a check for \$5880. MVGA sent invoices to individual growers for their portion. Support documentation was included in the mailing detailing costs.
- Last month beginning balance \$25,053.85, ending balance \$17,158.17. Accounts receivable of \$8,624.40.

Government/Public Relations

- OFA & ONLA are losing members due to consolidations, bankruptcies, and growers going out of business. This is a concern.
- Washington Group of the Humane Society is working on issues that threaten Ohio's livestock business.

Marketing - Tom Wardell

- A Blade representative will be calling the growers to determine their interest in participating in the spring ad.
- Nearly 750 \$5-off coupons were passed out at the Home & Garden Show
- A draft cable ad was written and approved by the Marketing Committee and given to Buckeye CableSystem to develop into our spring campaign.
- The Val Pak ad for April is finalized. There are still a few openings for May
- The major advertising ads are set for spring. However, MVGA is still looking for additional opportunities in the smaller regional newspapers.
- Joe talked to Doug Truman, with the City of Toledo, who said that the City will not be planting flowers this year. It is not known whether they will maintain last year's flower beds. More information will be available soon.
- Greek Hill is owned by the Catholic Diocese and is maintained and watered by the City. If flowers are

provided by MVGA, they will possibly not get watered or de-weeded. Northwest Ohio's Master Gardener's may be interested in assisting in this project.

- There was a motion made at Board meeting not to do the Greek Hill at this time. Some still believe this may be used as a press opportunity- a 3rd party non-profit organization stepping forward to beautify the community. There are still liability issues. A final go/no-go decision is needed by the 2nd week of May. More information will come later.

Membership- Wade Smith

- The Membership catalog is officially going to print. The Board approved 150 copies.
- Everyone should have received their membership forms. Those that fail to return them will run the risk of being eliminated from the mailing list.
- Thank you for those who advertized in the catalog. You will be receiving an invoice from Joe. Dawson Graphics will bill Joe.
- There was a motion for the Board and participating members to develop a strategic plan for 1,3,5, and 10 years by our annual meeting in September. Each member should submit a ½ or full page on where you think the organization should set priorities.

Native Plants- Josh Miller

- Joe reported that the Garden Show coupons will be passed out. There were 350-400 passed out at the House & Home Show. Coupons for the Home & Garden Show will be passed out today. Last year 19 Grower locations participated. This year 39 will be participating in the \$5.00 off coupon.
- Native Plant Program – There are 12 growers committed in 2010, last year there were only 4. Joe will meet later this afternoon with their committee. The kit will be assembled and presented at next month's meeting
- The MV Natives brochure is similar to last years, including names of the participating 12 growers. Pictures will be included of the plants being used. The logo used will be finalized this afternoon. This would be a good opportunity to trademark the logo.

Presentations

Title: Sensible and Sensational Selections for This Year's Container Gardens

Presenter: Matt Ross, Horticulturist, TBG and Adjunct Faculty, Owens Community College

- Fertilizers & disease prevention
- TBG plant accessions & special collections
- Haitian efforts for natural soil enrichment vs bought fertilizers
- Container gardening: non-conventional plant & container selection

Meeting Adjourned: 9:50

Minutes submitted by Serenity Carr, Assistant Program Manager - Maumee Valley Growers

The next meeting is at Toledo Botanical Gardens
April 8th, 2010
8:00 am