

Reiman Gardens CoHorts' Board Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2008

President Carole Bunde called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Those present included Carole Bunde, Janice Blanco, Darrell Neumann, Dean Sampson, Craig Seymour, Dick Carlson, Charlie Yoerger, Charlie Ricketts, Clete Mercier, Jack Mauldin, Mary Pickett, Betty Sailsbury, Ardie Roehr, Doris Brown, Jeanne Rieck, Jean Digmann, Miriam Takle, and Pat Moline (ISU Foundation).

Staff Present: Pat Kunz, Teresa McLaughlin, Joan Senne, and Lisa Orgler

Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the April 9, 2008 meeting. All of the CoHorts' Board Meeting Minutes are on the Reiman Gardens website.

Treasurer's Report: Clete Mercier reported our current balance is \$3,252.82. The treasurer will keep track of the amount of money collected in the donation box.

Committee Reports

Education: Jean Digmann reported 68 people attended the May 8, 2008 Brown Bag Lunch. Betty Sailsbury stated that we need hostesses for the July Brown Bag Lunch. Veronica Fowler will present the June 12, 2008 Brown Bag Lunch Program. Her book, "The Complete Guide to Growing Roses," will be for sale and autographed by Veronica.

Garden Guides: Mary Pickett reported the following year to date tours:

- 6 adult tours with 126 guests and 9 guides
- 22 youth tours with 931 guests and 70 guides

Horticulture Volunteers: Charlie Yoerger reported volunteers worked 315 hours in April. Volunteer training sessions are scheduled.

Membership: Jeanne Rieck reported that as of May 12, 2008 1,964 households are Reiman Gardens members. A new mailing will be going out for membership. Teresa McLaughlin reported that although the household membership number has decreased, donations have increased.

Plant Sale: Craig Seymour stated that the plant sale will be on Saturday, August 23rd. We have a good supply of basic plants. However, we need a source for summer perennials, quality products that can be sold for a higher price, and house plants.

Historian: No report

Publicity and Marketing: Miriam Takle reported we sold 27 large cards and 8 sets of note cards for a total of \$151.75. A new set of note cards with butterflies will be available for sale. Entries for the photo contest will be accepted July 1 – 31. Carole Bunde will check with the gift shop manager about selling cards in the gift shop.

Special Projects: Ardie Roehr stated that the speakers bureau for Reiman Gardens is in progress.

President-Elect Report: Charlie Ricketts will organize the staff luncheon scheduled for July 9, 2008.

Past President Report: Dick Carlson is helping Charlie and Carole obtain raffle items for Dancing Under the Stars.

Unfinished Business

Ragbrai: Teresa McLaughlin reported that plans are underway with the Ames noon and morning Rotary Clubs for Ragbrai events at Reiman Gardens July 22, 2008. Between 4 – 8 p.m. there will be music, food, beer, wine, and other beverages. Before arriving in Ames riders will be given information about events at the gardens, and they will be given a discounted entry fee. Food tickets will be sold at the entrance to be used to purchase food from the vendors.

New Business

Report on Silos and Smokestacks Listening Tour: Jean Digmann stated that Reiman Gardens is a new affiliate of Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area which is sponsored by the National Park Service. The Silos & Smokestacks National Heritage Area includes 37 Iowa counties and has 106 sites.

Membership Appreciation Week – June 1 – 6: Carole Bunde, Dick Carlson, and Charlie Ricketts have been getting raffle ticket items. The Ice Cream Social will be June 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. June 6th will be Dancing Under the Stars with members admitted free and \$10/person or \$16/couple for guests.

Raffle Door Prizes & Tickets: Many items have been donated for the raffle including Cubs tickets, ISU football tickets, Boone Railroad ride, restaurant meals, a Wisconsin get-a-way, and HyVee gift card. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Volunteers will be needed to help the night of the dance.

Director Update: Teresa McLaughlin stated that members will be given a 10% discount in the gift shop on Tuesdays. The gift shop is expected to open about June 6th. On May 31 there will be a live remote WHO radio broadcast with Van and Bonnie at Reiman Gardens. Veterans will be admitted free that day. A special dinosaur show will be on display at the gardens April 30 – July 24, 2009.

Foundation Representative Comments: Pat Moline reported that the Women & Philanthropy workshop was a success. Fund raising this year is 125% of goal.

Announcements:

Carole Bunde requested that board members keep track of their volunteer hours served on the board.

The next board meeting will be June 11, 2008 at 9:30 a.m.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Blanco