

Reiman Gardens CoHorts Board Meeting January 12, 2011

Members present: Darrell Neumann, Carolyn Bolinger, Jeanne Rieck, Miriam Takle, Dave Austin, Jean Digmann, Teresa McLaughlin, Dan Divine, Sheryl Soden, Marie Hammon, Fidella Marty.

Members absent: Doris Brown, Dean Sampson, Reta Althaus, Mary Lou Mumm, Saren Johnson, Alzire Messenger, Dorothy Yoerger, Denise Vrchota.

Meeting called to order by Dave Austin at 9:35

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Carolyn Bolinger—Concessions is now Ala Carte. Carolyn put together a form for us to use when we have an Ala Carte activity to help keep track of our income and expenses. Balance January 1 was \$3541.20. The Octagon still has some of our books for sale. They have sold 3. There are probably 5 or so left. When the check comes, Teresa will give it to Carolyn to deposit as miscellaneous.

Membership—Jeanne Rieck—2264 households. 13 new. 2082 last year at this time. Idea of selling memberships on the 29th & 30th at Picnic Antics. Ala Carte will be offered. No admission in exchange for canned goods for Food Pantry. Hours are 10-2 both days. Offer drawing for a free membership. A 10% discount will be offered for memberships those days.

Education—Fidella Marty—fliers available for Brown Bag Lunch topics. Range of serious and entertaining topics. Fidella asked about the honorarium for Brown Bag Lunch speakers. We give them a \$15 gift certificate. Georgeanne reported in an email that there were 78 guests present at the December Brown Bag Luncheon.

Volunteers—report from Pat Kunz—total hours for volunteers in December were 469.55 with most of those being in the Butterfly Wing. There were no Youth or Adult tours.

Plant Sale—Darrell Neumann—Keep growing houseplants. Date is August 20-21.

Historian—Sheryl Soden—nothing to report. Teresa thinks last year's book is back.

Publicity & Marketing—Marie Hammon—nothing to report.

Photo Contest & Cards—Val still wants cards in the shop so supplies need to be ordered.

CoHort Events & Activities—March 12 we can sell popcorn at the Irish Dance.

President Elect—Dean Sampson

Past President—Jean Digmann

Old Business/New Business—Dave asked about selling Bug Juice in Ala Carte. Dave also shared an article about volunteerism during hard times. Iowa ranks #2 in the nation behind Utah. Remember to vote daily for Rain Bird. We are currently in first place for the \$5000 grant.

Director Update—Teresa McLaughlin—shared Public Garden Journal. Thinking about a New Year's Party. We need to put together a 5 & 10-year strategic plan. What types of flowers and activities do we want to promote? How will we address the shortage of greenhouse space? Twenty-year anniversary will be in 2015. How do we want to promote that? We need to work towards being self-sustaining. We need a \$40 million endowment. Ours is currently at \$7 million. A quasi endowment is being looked at. Donors can contribute a large amount of money that needs to be used within a certain time period. The Reiman's will attend a party in June honoring the Perennials—donors who commit to donating an amount every year. Dave asked about having brochures at rest areas. There is a charge for putting them there and we don't have the money to produce that many. We do supply brochures to the four or five who have no charge.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Next meeting—February 9, 2011—9:30 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Jody Melcher
Treasurer