Reiman Gardens CoHorts' Board Meeting Minutes
September 9, 2009

President Charlie Ricketts called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
Those present included Charlie Ricketts, Janice Blanco, Dave Austin, Darrell Neumann, Dean Sampson, Charles Yoerger, Clete Mercier, Jean Digmann, Ardie Roehr, Jack Mauldin, Georganna Hinrichsen, Carole Bunde, Jeanne Rieck, Miriam Takle, and Sara Mitchell.
Staff present: Pat Kunz and Teresa McLaughlin

Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the August 12, 2009 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Clete Mercier reported a current balance of $11,935.08. A total of $890 was received from the photo contest entries. The winner of the photo contest chose to return his $50 check to the gardens. To date $7,089.06 has been deposited in the CoHorts' account from the plant sale. The board approved payment of several bills presented by Clete. The board discussed the need for better documentation to support the accounting books.

Committee Reports
Education: Georganna Hinrichsen reported 64 people attended last month's brown bag lunch presented by Marsh Leeper. The September 10th brown bag lunch topic, Loess Hills…A Place Apart, will be presented by Don Wishart. Pat Kunz stated that Saren Johnston will not be able to attend board meetings; however, she will continue working on the Education Committee.

Garden Guides: Pat Kunz stated we are expecting 547 youth guests for tours in September.
Tours April – August, 2009
Youth Tours – 31 tours, 984 guests, and 84 guides
Adult Tours – 18 tours, 632 guests, and 47 guides

Horticulture Volunteers: Charlie Yoerger reported 99 volunteers hours worked in August.

Membership: Jeanne Rieck reported as of August, 2009 there were 2,223 household memberships, which includes 22 new memberships and 8 reinstated memberships. Joyce Veggie has volunteered to organize a fund raising function scheduled for April, 2010.

Plant Sale: Jean Digmann stated 114 people paid to attend the Root Ball. There were positive comments about the food and music. Letters were sent to 768 members requesting donations; 17 replies were received. It was decided to sponsor the Root Ball again next year. Charlie Ricketts reported the larger, more expensive plants did not sell well, and fewer people came to the plant sale this year.

Historian: Sara Mitchell stated she is looking for photos of volunteers and CoHorts'.

Publicity: Miriam Takle reported 43 large cards and 14 sets of note cards were sold last month for a total of $224.50. Dave Austin stated we paid out $185 in prize money to photo contest winners. The best of show winner, Alan Ridgway, requested his $50 prize money be donated to Reiman Gardens.

Special Projects: Ardie Roehr thanked everyone who worked on the Root Ball.

Past President Report: Carole Bunde reported the following people have agreed to serve as CoHorts' officers for the 2010 year.

President: Jean Digmann
President-Elect: David Austin
Treasurer: Carolyn Bolinger
Secretary: Jody Melcher

Director Update: Teresa McLaughlin stated the butterfly wing will be staffed by one volunteer during slow periods. Beginning in October during weekdays there will be a set schedule to enter the butterfly wing, and the docent will stay with the visitors until they exit the butterfly wing. Two volunteers will be scheduled during weekends for each shift. Due to the dinosaur exhibit, this year has been our most successful. The butterfly wing and the gift shop will be open during the winter months.

Announcements:

ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TO CHARLIE
ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 21, 2009
NEXT MEETING – OCTOBER 14, 2009, 9:30 A.M. – SPEER ROOM

Adjourn:

Charlie Ricketts adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Janice Blanco