

REIMAN GARDENS COHORTS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2005

President Jenny Martin called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Jenny Martin, Mary Atherly, Beth Cheville, Carol Patterson, Ken Walter, Charlie Yoerger, Carole Bunde, Mary Pickett, Charlie Ricketts, Nan Ripley, and Ann Campbell.

Staff present: Teresa McLaughlin, John Glover and Nick Howell.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of the April 20th board meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer's report: Mary Atherly reported balance at the beginning of the month was \$2959.63. Receipts from the book sale were \$260.00. Balance at end of month was \$3219.63. Book sale money will be kept separate.

Committee Reports:

Education: Ken reported 36 attended the last Brown Bag lunch. Nan has set up the next program which will be Deb Drazycmski of Reflections with a program on freeze dried flowers for gifts and occasions.

Garden Guides: Mary reported: Youth tours in April numbered 11 with 251 guests and 45 guides. May has 14 tours with 630 guests and 45 guides. June has 12 tours with 442 guests and 421 guides. Adult tours for April included 5 tours with 139 guests and 9 guides. May has 6 tours with 202 guests and 12 guides. And June's schedule has 5 tours with 170 guests and 11 guides. There has been a big influx of tours at the end of the school year.

Horticulture Volunteers: Charlie Yoerger reported that in April 22 volunteers worked 192 hours. It was noted that some of the physically demanding jobs should be handled by younger people. The death of volunteer Alan Wilt was noted.

Membership: Carol reported a total of 2572 members. There were 55 new members in April. There have been 30 new members in May. The majority are from Ames with some from Des Moines. John Glover reported as an enticement to new members that there be a 3 month trial membership during the summer. Brochures will be mailed to about 10,000 Ames households and given to visitors to the gardens. This will begin June 1.

Plant Sale: The date is August 14. It was suggested that location be the same as last year in the maintenance lot.

Historian: No report.

Photography: Carol Patterson reported that the June 11 photo workshop might be canceled. Suggestions were given. Thomas Rosenberg for the June 29 workshop has been selected.

News Reporter: July 18 is the deadline for next newsletter. Donna Cipolloni welcomes your suggestions for new articles.

President Elect: Beth Cheville that July would be the intern lunch after the July 13 board meeting. A list was passed around for pot luck contributions.

Past President: Chelon has a committee for Jazz in July. On July 22. Ed Kelley group will perform again. Gene Johnson will be the sponsor with a \$500 contribution.

Unfinished Business: Beth turned in an additional \$70 from the book sale. There are still hundreds left from "Child's Garden of Flowers" book.

New Business: Jenny reported that the funds from book sales might be directed to the Dance Chimes Project. Nick Howell explained the dance chimes project. Teresa gave the background. The Reiman family is initiating this project to memorialize Father James Supple. It will also provide an opportunity to commemorate other donors. The dancing chimes will be the centerpiece of an ongoing project which will be highlighted by musical grade chimes. Different notes will be played as people walk on each tile. David Dalquist has been commissioned to design 1 foot square paving tiles for the paths. Pavers will be sold at an affordable price and can be added as needed. The cost is \$87,000 with hopes of fund raising to raise \$200,000. Plans are to have the plaza in place by the 10th anniversary. Nan moved cohorts contribute a minimum of \$5000 for 10th anniversary gift. Carol Patterson seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously. The book money will be contribution to this project.

Staff Updates: Teresa reported there have been more staff changes. Sandy Latte left. Budget continues to be big issue. No more staff cuts are anticipated at this point. There is a need to raise \$1 million for a \$1.5 million operating budget. Teresa anticipates seeing the need to become totally self supporting. The 10th anniversary will begin Friday, September 16, which is the actual date of the dedication 10 years ago. On Saturday guests will enter the gardens for free, but will be asked for a contribution to United Way. Saturday evening there will be a barbeque fund raiser with the Jischkes, Reimans, and Geoffreys in attendance. Tickets will be \$35. On Sunday there will be a series of family events.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 8 at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary
Ann Campbell