

UNOFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 4, 2007
Of The

TEXAS MASTAER GARDENER ASSOCIATION, INC.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS

GEORGE J. AMMERMANN, SECRETARY

The following officers were present:

President Karen Bitnar, First Vice-President, Garey Wylie, Second Vice-President, Helen Quinn, Secretary George J. Ammermann, Treasurer, Virginia Krebs, Past President, Jan Shannon and State Coordinator, Dr. Doug Welsh

Directors from the following associations were present: Angelina, Aransas/San Patricio, Austin (Blue Bonnet), Bell, Brazoria, Collin, Comal, Dallas, Denton, Fort Bend, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Harrison, Hood (Lake Grandbury), Jefferson, Johnson, Kerr (Hill Country), Leon (Lone Ranger), McClellan, Montgomery, Nueces, Parker, Potter/Randal, Rusk, Smith, Tarrant, Travis, Victoria, Wichita, Williamson.

Dr. Doug Welsh stated the meeting would be recorded on the centra system, allowing members to listen to the proceedings.

Call to Order: President Karen Bitnar called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. George J. Ammermann gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes: Sallie Bourgeois moved the minutes of the April 13, 2007, be accepted as posted on the website. Fran Amuny seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report. The treasurer's report was given by treasurer, Virginia Krebs.

Balance as of April 10, 2007	\$31,806.28
Deposits	214.00
Disbursements	1,889.31

Balance as of July 31, 2007 \$30,130.97

The report is filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Karen Bitnar gave a report on the status of the "2007 Awards Program". We are hoping to have the Awards Packet and submission forms completed during September.

Web Master Doug Richards explained the purpose of the “Merchandise Page” on the website. This page is for associations to post any items they have for sale. No commercial materials may be posted on this page.

Nominating Committee chairman Ernie Edmundson gave the report of the Nominating Committee. She also thanked the members of the committee. The committee consisted of the following members. Fran Amuny, Jane Bartosiewicz, and Wayne Rhoden. The nominees are:

President – Garey Wylie, Johnson County

Firs Vice President – Doug Quicksall, McLennan County

Second Vice-President Lyn McKillop, Fort Bend County

Secretary – Brenda Cunningham, Dallas County

Treasurer – Homer Babbitt, Parker County

Dr. Welsh stated there were two vacancies for Horticultural Agents. He requested his portion of the meeting be moved until after the lunch break. Joe Novak was having a plant sale.

Unfinished Business:

Karen Bitnar reported on the proposal for a memorial for Diane Welch. The Executive Board is making the following suggestion. In future all memorials will be decided on an individual basis. The board recommends that a memorial in the amount of \$500.00 be given to the Dr. Bill Welch and Diane Welch Scholarship Fund in honor of Diane Welch.

Wayne Rhoden reported we have a new agent with IRS and he has furnished the last requested information. He was told the application was now in the hands of the final review committee and usually once the application reaches this level approval is granted. Based on this information we hope to get final approval within the next 2 weeks.

Garey Wylie discussed the proposed long range development plan.

Develop Sate M/G slogan (to generate excitement)

1. Increase TMGA membership by 10 %/
 - Make use of the Master Gardener membership cards
 - Ask for free admission at Botanical Gardens
 - Receive discounts at nurseries.
2. Divide state into regions or districts to develop interest in counties that do not have organizations, or have organizations that do not belong to TMGA.
3. Master Gardener yearly calendars
4. Awards for members having 1,000 volunteer hours.
5. Award for the county with most hours
6. Awards for County Agents
7. Award for county that increases State Membership
8. Increase awareness of website
9. Specialist accountability.

If anyone has ideas to help further TMGA let Garey know. Programs should be state wide not just at the local level. If anyone is interested to taking on any of the proposals please contact Garey.

Proposed By-Law changes were presented by George J. Ammermann. Remember the only time for By-Law amendments is at the annual meeting held during the 4th quarter of the year.

Duties of the 2nd Vice-President:

- A. Assist the President.
- B. Be chairman of the By-Laws Committee.
- C. Be advisor to the Program Committee

Proposed Duties of the 2nd Vice-President

- A. Assist the President.
- B. Be chairman of the By-Laws Committee
- C. Be advisor to the Program Committee
- D. **Be a member of the Awards Committee.**

The Standing Committees for the Corporation are.

- A. Annual Meeting Committee
- B. Newsletter Committee
- C. Nominating Committee
- D. Audit Committee
- E. Historian

Proposed: The Standing Committees for the Corporation are:

- A. Annual Meeting Committee
- B. Newsletter Committee
- C. Nominating Committee
- D. Audit Committee
- E. **Delete: Historian**

Deb Bates and Deborah Jones of Harrison County gave an update on the 2009 Conference.

Galya Christiansen of Texas A&M Press introduced the forth coming publication of Dr. Welsh's book: *Doug Welsh's Texas Garden Almanac*. She provided information for purchasing the book through the Texas A&M Press.

Dave Whiting, davesgarden.com. Gave an explanation about how the website is set up, how to excess the information and how to participate in the information made available to readers.

David Simpson from the Benz School of Floral Design gave a short program describing how local associations could sponsor floral design workshops in there areas.

Dr. Doug Welsh commented on the possibility of have a forum at the 2009 Conference with one of the possibilities being “How-to evaluate educational programs and how long do you have to do the evaluation?”

A question was raised concerning the timing of the Directors meeting held during the conferences?

New Business

There was no new business from the floor.

Correspondence:

Karen Bitnar read a Thank You note from the Texas 4-H Round-up for the \$500.00 donation they received from TMGA

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

George J. Ammermann
TMGA Secretary 2007

Karen Bitnar
TMGA President 2007