

**Minutes-Board Meeting  
Horticulture Co-op of Metro St. Louis  
Wednesday, February 8, 2012  
St. Louis Composting  
39 Old Elam, Valley Park, MO 63088**

**Members Present:**

Tammy Behm (President)	Bill Ruppert (Executive Director)
Roy Gross (President-Elect)	Paul Roberts (Executive Treasurer)
Kevin Gallagher (Vice President)	Terry Smith (Executive Secretary)
	Karen Koehneman

**GPHA:**

Karen Nickel	Janie Bedwell
Ellen Barredo	

**LNAGSL:**

Jennifer Schamber	Craig Pisarkiewicz
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**SLAA:**

**GSLFGA:**

Pat Bellrose

**Student Representative:**

Justin Lee

**Opening Business/Announcements**

- Robert's Rules waived.
- Introductions went around the table for the benefit of Justin Lee, Hort Co-op's Student Representative and Terry Smith, the newly board approved Executive Secretary.

**Executive Committee**

**Executive Secretary-Karen Koehneman**

- Minutes from the Hort Co-op Board Meeting of October 12, 2011 were reviewed and approved with one change, Victoria Hatfield represents GPHA not LNAGSL.

**Treasurer's Report-Paul Roberts**

- Balance Sheet reviewed \$35,020.91 in Money Market, \$10,232.26 in Checking Account
- It was decided to move money from Checking to Money Market after Garden Blitz.

**Executive Director Report-Bill Ruppert**

- Clarity Connect is creating a tool to become a third party provider for online registration that will reduce Hort Co-op's banking fees. The new tool will not be finished until March.
- Hort Co-op nametags will be purchased, \$8.50 each, aluminum with magnetic fastener

## **Status Reports/Updates**

- Executive Board recommended Terry Smith as new Executive Secretary and she was approved

### **Garden Blitz—March 3, 2012**

- St. Louis Garden Blitz scheduled for March 3, 2012 has 28 registrants
- Anna Ball of Ball Horticulture has shown interest in Garden Blitz because ‘beauty is not main topic’
- Ellen Barredo would like an embedded e-blast to send out from Bowood Farms
- Tammy suggested Facebook posts to help market the event
- Bill has master contact list for speakers, hosts and producers of event
- Bill helping with PowerPoint presentations for some presenters
- Tammy Palmier of MBG sending contracts to presenters
- Karen Koehneman will recruit Master Gardener volunteers for Friday and Saturday
- Seven open tables in Monsanto Hall, non-profits to be invited to fill Hall include St. Louis Master Gardeners, Hort Co-op, STLCC-Meramec Horticulture, MDC, Shaw Nature Reserve and Earthways (Audubon Society, Wild Ones and Emerald Ash Borer Education Coordinator have tables)
- Hort Co-op’s first choice for Silent Auction is west wall of Monsanto Hall
- Social after the event to draw crowd to Monsanto Hall, looking for donations from Ted Drewe’s or Fitz’s
- Robert Weaver coordinating program sponsors

### **Silent Auction**

- Hort Co-op retains all Silent Auction revenue
- Requesting board members to secure five donations each
- Ellen suggested donations that provide an ‘experience’
- Pat suggested pots with certificate to return to Garden Center for help with container arranging
- Bill agreed with the ‘experience’ donations stating the Gateway Greening received \$2500 for a backstage visit during Donnybrook
- Janie suggested hotel rooms
- Tammy suggested ‘Day with Horticulturist at MBG’

### **Short Course Topic Suggestions—September 27, 2012???**

- Hands-on practical aspects of Horticulture
- DOT/Missouri State Highway Patrol—laws that apply to landscape hauling
- Umbrella theme ‘Grow Your Knowledge’
- Tool sharpening/cleaning/repair clinic
- Business Basics
- Sight Maintenance for Sustainable Sites
- Offer CEU’s for Arborists and PEU’s for Irrigation installers
- Plant benefits—selling the story

- Managing Invasive Plants
- Irrigation How-To/Installing a Smart Controller
- Four season growing
- Garden maintenance for raised vegetable beds

**Green Industry Day—August 9, 2012**

- Evolving to Hort Co-op Annual Meeting
- Reports from all Member Groups as well as MLNA and MoToc
- Possible speaker Roy Diblik of Northwind Perennial Farm

**General Membership Evening—Date to be determined**

- Andrew Wyatt as possible speaker

**Earth Day Symposium—April 5-6, 2012 at MBG**

- Guests include Civil Engineers, Municipality personnel, MSD, MDC

**Native Plant Landscaping Symposium—March 31, 2012 at Powder Valley**

- Consumer event
- Cindy not present to give update

**Holiday Gathering—December 4, 2012 at Kirkwood Station**

- Recognition Awards and Scholarships
- Recognize those who see value in what we do, examples include Peter Fisher of Citygarden; Gerry Welch, Mayor of Webster Groves; John Alberici and/or Thad Simon of Novus International
- Accept nominations from members of Hort Co-op
- Name of award suggestions include 'Visionary' or 'Award of Merit'
- Bill has arranged for Rogers and Nienhouse to give a benefit performance for the Scholarship fund. Band fee is negotiable and there is a \$175 fee for the sound guy