

Horticulture Co-op of Metro St. Louis

March 30th, 2010

STLCC-Meramec BA-105

Members Present:

GPHA: Tammy Behm (2nd V. Pres.)
Rich Moffitt

GSLFGA: No members present

LNAGSL: Cindy Gilberg (President)
Jennifer Schamber (1st V. Pres.)
Bill Ruppert (Executive Director)
Craig Pisarkiewicz

SLAA: Lee Mueller

STLCC: Paul Roberts (Treasurer)

Opening Business/Announcements

- Robert's Rules of Order were waived for the current meeting
- The budget was updated by Paul and Valerie, the bookkeeper and can be reviewed by members, further budget reviews will be done later this summer.

Committee REPORTS: Administrative/Management

- **EXECUTIVE Committee**
 - **Executive Secretary's Report**
 - Minutes from previous meeting were approved
 - **Executive Director's Report (Bill Ruppert)**
 - **Power of Plants Tour** - date to be set (possibly for the week of June 21st), plans are in progress and the board will be updated
 - **President's Report**
 - The board members present approved website updates (proposed changes include updating the width of the screen display, online event registration, and changes with the website template- total costs include \$1175) The board approved to make these

changes and will proceed with the process of setting up e-commerce on the www.hortco-op.org website

- Paula Foster of First National Merchant Solutions (Ph: 636.734.3604) will be asked to draft an official proposal for credit card processing for the organization. Jennifer will contact her in regards to this matter.
- Bylaws amendments per past discussions and suggestions by Paul Roberts and others, further discussion on this topic will be made after the busy season. Bill and Paul will do an initial review and present possible amendments to the board at a later date (July).

- **Vice President's Report on Special Events (Jennifer Schamber/Tammy Behm)**

- ◆ **Upcoming events:**

- **Welcome** for incoming Missouri Botanical Garden President- possibilities include an invite to Holiday Gathering, an event at Alberici or an invite to present at the 2010 Symposium
- **March 2011 Symposium**- the focus is on Edibles (Chicken Whisperer, Backyard Harvest), the date for the Symposium needs to be set asap due to administrative changes in STLCC, cost changes in reference to campus facilities should be anticipated
- **September 2010 Short Course for Thursday, September 9th, 2010**- update:
 - Overall theme- "Grow Your Knowledge"
 - Silent auction
 - Sponsors and vendors
 - Volunteer coordinator
 - Presenters for event:
 - Keynote: Roy Diblik- no response as of this date- a keynote presenter will not be further pursued
 - Mike Basile of Basile Landscape- agreed to do a hands-on demonstration involving pervious pavers (confirmed)
 - Nathan Brandt- MO-Extension Update (confirmed)
 - Dan Billman- Abiotic or Biotic Walkabout-Problems & Solutions (confirmed)
 - Ellen Barredo, Sandi Hillermann, Jennifer Schamber- What's Hot? Trends... (confirmed)

- Craig Piszarkiwicz and Chris Siewing- Water Conservation: Smart Irrigation and Rainwater Harvesting (confirmed)
 - Gary Wangler- Hort Therapy & Rooftop Gardens (confirmed)
 - Bill Ruppert- public displays “Tried-and-True” annuals (confirmed)
 - Unconfirmed- Steve Cline & Pete tag team for Edibles: Soil Prep for Edibles and Building Raised Beds
 - Unconfirmed-Mike Sestrich (Tree Assessment/Climb)
 - Unconfirmed- SWT (Sustainable Sites Initiative), MSD
 - Unconfirmed- Basic Fundamentals of Equipment Maintenance Talk
 - Other good potential speakers: Pete Laufersweiler/Steve Cline (edible talk?), Rain Garden/Bog Garden/”What to do with that Wet Spot in the Yard” demo., if STLCC gives approval for the big rain garden project- an update can be given over in the “swamp”, STL Composting
- Facilities- Paul will notify the college on the date of the event
 - Grants- the idea of pursuing grant opportunities to help underwrite the organization’s educational events
 - Sponsorships will be pursued