

Reiman Gardens CoHorts' Board Meeting Minutes July 9, 2008

President Carole Bunde called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

Those present included Carole Bunde, Janice Blanco, Dean Sampson, Dick Carlson, Craig Seymour, Charles Yoerger, Charlie Ricketts, Mary Pickett, David Austin, Doris Brown, Jeanne Rieck, and Jean Digmann.

Staff present: Gloria Erickson, Pat Kunz, Teresa McLaughlin, and Lisa Orgler.

Approval of the Minutes: A motion was made and passed to accept the minutes of the June 11, 2008 meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Carole Bunde reported our current balance is \$3,629.11. During the months of April, May, and June of this year \$295.30 was donated by guests in the collection box. Since inception of the donation box, a total of \$439.05 has been collected. Proceeds from the Dancing Under the Stars raffle totaled \$635, and this amount will be donated to the Reiman Gardens beautification fund.

Committee Reports

Education: Jean Digmann reported that the July 10th brown bag lunch program will be presented by Mimi Wagner. Her topic will be "Stormwater Gardens: Water Conservation and Creek Protection." The July 31st brown bag lunch program will be presented by the Reiman Gardens summer interns. There has been a change for the August 14th brown bag lunch program. The Young Professionals of Ames will sponsor the program and the speaker will be Roy Reiman. We estimate an attendance of 200 people and those wishing to attend are asked to RSVP. Box lunches will be served to those ordering in advance.

Garden Guides: Pat Kunz reported the following year to date tours:
21 adult tours with 550 guests and 35 guides
30 youth tours with 1,420 guests and 94 guides

Horticulture Volunteers: Charlie Yoerger reported 90.75 volunteer hours worked in June.

Membership: Jeanne Rieck reported a current membership of 1,993 households, which is up from the June total of 1,966 households.

Plant Sale: Craig Seymour circulated a sign up sheet for volunteers to help with the plant sale. Plants will be picked up on August 19th from Swift's wholesale nursery. Craig is trying to get some fall annuals and will look into the possibility of getting bulbs. Houseplants, garden art, and split plants can be donated for the sale.

Historian: Carole Bunde announced that Sara Mitchell will be on the Historian Committee with Doris Brown.

Publicity and Marketing: Dave Austin reported that in June 17 photo cards and 23 note cards were sold for a total of \$250.75. Emphasis will be placed on butterfly cards since they are very popular. For the month of June printing expenses totaled \$169.84. Advertising for the photo

contest was accomplished by distributing flyers and newspaper articles. There will be three judges to select the contest winners.

Special Projects: No report.

President-Elect Report: Charlie Ricketts and Carole Bunde discussed what to give as a gift to volunteers in October.

Past President Report: Dick Carlson reported that he will organize a nominating committee for next year's CoHorts' Board.

Unfinished Business

Garden Art Fair – July 13: The CoHorts' will have a table in the lobby with membership information, children's books, cards, and photo contest information. Gloria Erickson reported there will be 57 artists displaying their work. There will be music throughout the day, food service from Corny Island concessions, and Star radio will be broadcasting live. A large crowd is anticipated.

Ragbrai – July 22: The Ames Rotary will sponsor this event at Reiman Gardens from 4 to 8 p.m. The trains and butterfly wing will be open and riders will get a \$2 off coupon on admission. The Bill Martin Band will provide music and five food vendors will serve a variety of food.

Director Update: Teresa McLaughlin reported that renovation is complete and the gift shop is open. Every Tuesday CoHorts' members will get a 10% discount in the gift shop. The past fiscal year was finished in the black, and the University is giving more money to the gardens. Next year the gardens will have a prehistoric theme with a dinosaur show from the end of April to the end of July.

Other Staff Reports

Lisa Orgler stated that ferns will be on display during the 2009 holiday. A permit has been granted to the gardens which will increase the number of allowable insect species to 1,000.

Announcements: Next Meeting – August 13, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the Speer Room.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11 a.m. followed by the Reiman staff luncheon.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Blanco