

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 5, 2006 MEETING  
Of The Board of Directors  
TEXAS MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION, INC.  
Texas A&M University  
College Station, Texas

GEORGE J. AMMERMANN, SECRETARY

The following officers were present:

President Jan Shannon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Karen Bitnar, Secretary George J Ammermann,  
Treasurer Virginia Krebs, Past President Wayne Rhoden, State Coordinator Dr. Douglas Welsh

There were 70 present from the following associations: Angelina, Aransas/San Patricio, Austin/Bluebonnet MG, Bell, Bexar, Brazoria, Brazos, Collin, Comal, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Fort Bend, Galveston, Gregg, Grimes, Guadalupe, Harris, Hood/Lake Granbury MG, Jefferson, Kerr, Leon/Lone Ranger, McLennan, Midland/Ector-Permian Basin MG, Montgomery, Nueces, Orange, Parker, Smith, Tarrant, Travis, Wichita.

President Jan Shannon called the meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. with George J. Ammermann giving the invocation and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

There being no corrections or additions to the minutes of May 5, 2006 meeting, Doug Richards moved the acceptance of the minutes as posted on the TMGA web site. Seconded by Anne Brown. Motion passed.

Treasurer, Virginia Krebs gave the treasurer's report:

Balance as of April 30, 2006	\$30,509.70
Deposits	\$ 386.00
Disbursements	\$ 525.00

Balance as of July 31, 2006 \$ 30,370.79

The report is filed for audit.

Committee Reports:

Deb Martin Awards Chair gave a detailed Power Point presentation concerning the awards program discussing changes in program. The entire Power Point presentation will be available for local associations to follow in preparation for 2006 awards which will be judged and presented in 2007. The rules handbook should be completed and available to local association by November, 2006. Deb reminded everyone that for award applications to be judged the local association must be in good standing and the dues for 2007 must be received by the treasurer before March 1, 2007, NO EXCEPTIONS. She further strongly suggested that all dues be paid during January, 2007, as the award applications must be received by January 27, 2007.

Doug Richards, web master, gave an update on the changes to our web site. He thanked those who have been faithful in reporting changes in e-mail addresses and offering other information to be included on the web site. He also informed the directors that the director roster in the last right-hand column listed the number of members for each association. This is the number that will determine the size category for the awards program.

Marva Beck, Newsletter Chair, requested this title be changed since the newsletter is now a part of the web site. Marva does receive many requests for particular information and asked that directors having expertise in particular areas of horticulture give her your name and area so she could contact you for help in answering these questions.

Marva Beck, Outreach Chair, reported no requests were made in this area.

Dr. Doug Welsh, State Coordinator, gave an update of things happening in the Master Gardener Program. Specialist trainings have been completed in Propagation, held in Ft Worth, Oak Wilt held in Hood County, Rain Water Harvesting, held in Menard County. It was suggested that if your county is not yet at the table of Rain Water Harvesting to perhaps contact Billy Kniffen who is a self made Rain Water Harvesting Specialist. Mr. Kniffen is in high demand across Texas and even on the national level. He will be giving a program at a conference in Waco sometime in January as well as at the conference in Kerrville next April.

Over the past 10 years we have experienced a change in the number of County Extension Horticulturists and Horticulturist Specialists. At the same time we also experienced a change in where the funds are easier to find. Now the associations have greater funds than the extension program. Be sure if you use one of the horticultural specialists for your training program that you compensate them for travel expenses as their travel funds are county funds and are being watched very carefully by the County Commissioners where they are employed.

Dr. Welsh will have the names, etc. of the horticultural specialist posted on the TMGA web site.

#### Old Business

Wayne Rhoden gave an update on the 501(c) 3 application. He needed information from a few associations and if they have not provided the information by August 17<sup>th</sup> he is going to drop them from the application so it can returned to the IRS by their deadline.

#### New Business:

Anne Brown, Hill Country Advanced Training Report. Things are going well with the plans. The Host hotel is about out of rooms. So get your reservations in now if you wish to stay at the Inn of the Hills.

Earthkind™ Training Report was given by Kathleen Utsman and MK Engalstad, Permian Basin, there are 2 vacancies remaining.

Ernie Edmundson, Nominating Committee Chair, presented the proposed slate of officers for 2007.

President – Karen Bitnar – Hood County  
First Vice-President – Garey Wylie - Johnson County  
Second Vice-President – Helen Quinn – Grimes County  
Secretary – George J Ammermann – Guadalupe County  
Treasurer – Virginia Krebs – Wichita County

President Jan Shannon announced anyone wishing to run for office is to submit a resume which will be posted on the TMGA web site. Nominations will be accepted from the floor in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:07 pm

Respectfully submitted:

George J. Ammermann  
Secretary TMGA