

**HARRY P. LEU GARDENS BOARD**  
**March 26, 2008 Minutes**

The Harry P. Leu Gardens Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on Wednesday, March 26, 2008, at Leu Gardens. The meeting was called to order by Dave Metzker at 7:48 a.m.; announcing a quorum was present:

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** (11 scheduled meetings)

Dave Metzker	(5/0)	Chair	Lindsey Phillips	(1/0)
Marcie Simmons	(5/0)	Vice-Chair	Keith Oropeza	(4/1)
Ann Clement	(4/1)		Maxwell Spann	(4/0)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Robert Bowden, Executive Director, Harry P. Leu Gardens  
Antoinette Ashman, Recording Secretary

Dave Metzker and the Board welcomed new board member, Lindsey Phillips.

**MINUTES:**

**The approval of the February 27, 2008 board minutes was motioned by Keith Oropeza and seconded by Marcie Simmons; all approved.**

**ATTENDANCE AND REVENUE:**

Executive Director, Robert Bowden, reported on the attendance, revenue and expense reports (attached) for February 2008. **It was motioned by Marcie Simmons and seconded by Keith Oropeza that the February 2008 Attendance and Revenue reports be approved; all approved.**

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Robert Bowden spoke about trees ordered for purchase for the Gardens.

*Ann Clement arrived 7:59 a.m.*

Trina Hofreiter has been hired for the vacant Education Specialist position. The Board discussed the three annual horticultural conferences this fall: American Public Garden Association, Perennial Plant Association and Garden Writers Association.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**HORTICULTURE:**

*Dave Metzker reported updates from Cecil Hawley,*

Lindsey Phillips will be the liaison for the Horticulture department.

- The horticulture department completed the annual pruning of the Rose Garden began after Valentine's Day.
- Charlie's Tree Service removed two dead pines from the South Woods. These trees died as a result of the Hurricanes of 2004. They removed a large dead oak that died as a result of storm damage also.
- On Valentine's Day four companies volunteered manpower and equipment to trim trees in the Gardens. The project coordinated by Jay Sockriter and participating companies of Valley Crest, Davey Tree, U.S. Lawns and Dora Landscape using bucket trucks and chippers, trimmed dead wood and restoration pruning on trees damaged in 2004. The estimated monetary value of this volunteer work exceeded \$5,000.
- Spring fertilization program on turf, ornamentals, camellias and azaleas has begun. Use of the Vortex fertilizer spreader has allowed easier distribution of fertilizer and one worker instead of the previous four workers required.

**EDUCATION:**

*Maxwell Spann reported updates from Linda Schmidt,*

**Tours**

- **Feb. 2008**, 15 tours and 310 people **compared** to **Feb. 2007**, 14 tours and 293 people. There are 38 tours scheduled from April 1 thru May 15.

**Classes**

- **Feb. 2008**, 16 classes; 160 people (6 can.). **Feb. 2007**, 18 classes; 192 people (1 can.).

**Horticulture Therapy & General Information**

- Carolyn Voigt started something new by having two different facilities attending at the same time. The residents are enjoying meeting new people and seem even more excited about coming each week to help their new friends with planting activities.
- This annual event was held on March 6 (last year in February) with 510 high school students and advisors competing at five (5) stations in the gardens on subjects: soils, forestry, wildlife, recreation and aquatics.

**LEU HOUSE MUSEUM:** None.

**MARKETING & SPECIAL EVENTS:** *Keith Oropeza reported updates from Tracy Micciche, Events in Review*

- *Valentine's Concert* on February 14 sold out. The attendance was 1,133; cost of \$9,080.64; revenue of \$25,243.10. Twenty (20) memberships were sold.
- *Storytime at Leu Gardens* was on March 17; with attendance of 323.
- *Date Night* was canceled on Friday, March 7, due to the weather.

**Upcoming Events & Exhibits**

- *Date Night* is on April 4, the Gardens open at 6 p.m. Enjoy a romantic movie at 8:30 p.m. on a large outdoor screen. Admission is \$7 (adult); \$2 (ages 4-17); free for Garden Members and children under 4.
- *Storytime at Leu Gardens* is on April 21 at 10 a.m. Story time fun for little ones the third Monday of each month. Orange County Library System sponsors this event.
- *Plant Sale*, is on Saturday and Sunday, March 29 and 30, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Garden members have early entrance on Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. This annual plant sale has one of the largest selections of quality plants and garden accessories in Florida.

**Film Shoots & Marketing**

- *Winter Park Forum* (part of the *Orlando Sentinel*) ran a full-page article on Leu Gardens.
- *Lifestyle Magazine* ran a full-page article on Leu Garden's annual plant sale.
- *Central Florida Moms Magazine* ran an article on working moms highlighting Leu Gardens' Storytime.

**MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS:** *Ann Clement reported updates from Lynn Williams,*

- **As of March 24, 2008** membership was 4,564, with 80 new and 177 renewals. **Compared to ending March 31, 2007** membership of 4,324 with 106 new and 186 renewals.
- **Member's Double Discount Days** is scheduled for Friday, April 18 thru Sunday, April 20.
- Leu Pot Luck luncheon is on Wednesday, April 30.
- Leu Gardens' Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is on Thursday, May 22 at 6 p.m., invitations will be mailed in April.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 8:34 a.m.

Antoinette Ashman  
Recording Secretary