

CLCA San Francisco Bay Area Chapter Board Minutes - June 26, 2008

The SFBA Chapter board met on June 26. The meeting was Called to Order at 5:31 pm.

Roll Call

Kevin Burns, Rick Camin, Craig Rapp, Jim Link, Mary Cohen, Barry Cohen, Michael Gladden, Bob Kirtley, Julia Pollex, James Walker, Nanci Wilborn, Frank Niccoli, Michelle Gaspar, Maryanne Griese and Constance Cook were present.

Minutes

The minutes from the May 2008 board meeting were approved with corrections.

Motion made by Nanci Wilborn, seconded by Frank Niccoli to approve the corrected May 2008 minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Link presented the May 2008 Treasurer's Report. He noted a net income for the month of \$4, 777.00. Motion made by Frank Niccoli to approve the Treasury Report, seconded by Rick Camin. Motion passed.

New Business

The board discussed the new participation points system which ranks contractors on the CLCA web site, "find my contractor" page. To encourage members to participate in CLCA events and community activities, the association awards members who participate by enhancing their ranking on this important consumer search tool. The new system's strengths and weaknesses were discussed with most of the discussion focused on the lack of points awarded for past performance and service.

Craig reported that there is a state level discussion to organize a coaching retreat for all chapter presidents and president-elects.

He also reminded all attending that the State trophy award applications should be turned in by July 18th.

Awards Committee

Warm congratulations and thanks were given to Bob Kirtley for the fantastic success of the awards banquet extravaganza June 14, at the University Club in Palo Alto. Bob advised next year's date for the banquet should be changed to the week before Father's Day for better attendance. Bob is creating an improved manual that can be referenced by each year's awards chairman. 161 people attended the function. Great thanks were given to Craig for stepping up to take over for Bob during his illness. Most of the board liked the venue and thought Lebo Neuman, Master of Ceremonies, was outstanding. Bob wanted to also extend a warm appreciation to all those who took time to email and call about his condition. It goes a long way to show the support of the members of this organization, and what a great group of people they truly are!

Membership

Rick Camin reported 5 new members for May. Rick will write a new member spotlight in the Bay Breeze each month.

Golf Tournament

Nanci Wilborn discussed the Golf Tournament coming up at Spring Valley Golf Course, Milpitas on Tuesday, October 7. She's looking for prize donations.

Partner's For Success

Constance Cook sought clarification regarding the distinction between Partner's For Success and the Leaf Program. Specifically, students at Foothill College need clarification on the opportunities each program offers students who apply. There was also discussion regarding the timing for student scholarship money distribution.

Women's Auxillary

Mary Cohen reported that Tanya and Jon Singley will be hosting this year's potluck. The exact date to be set soon.

We are considering a Friday or Saturday for the Holiday Party in December.

The Chapter made \$1,852 (before expenses) for LEAF at the Chapter Awards Banquet Raffle. Details regarding

how these funds will be split within LEAF will be determined at the October Auxiliary Meeting.

Wendy Emeterio sent a letter on behalf of the State Auxiliary asking for donations for the fundraiser taking place at the Summer Meeting in Park City, UT. Mary made a motion to donate \$100 to the State Auxiliary fundraiser. Kevin Burns seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Proceeds from "College Enrichment" go to 3 colleges in our area: Foothill, City College of San Francisco and College of San Mateo. College of San Mateo has a floral program, no contractor program. Frank Niccoli has offered to teach hort classes in the past and his offers have been declined. He further stated that the decision to specifically teach floral was made so as not to compete with Foothill's program. Discussion followed as to whether future support of San Mateo should be discontinued since it doesn't offer contractor related classes.

The Auxiliary began discussions regarding the possibility of changing College Enrichment to a grant program wherein the college would submit an application with full explanation of the purpose and use of the funds for review. This way CLCA would know exactly what/how the money will be spent before awarding the grant. Further discussion will take place at the October Auxiliary Meeting.

The Chapter picnic will be on Sunday, September 14, at Cuesta Park in Mountain View. Bring the whole family.

Chapter Events

The Women's Auxiliary Dinner meeting will be on Thursday, October 9. It will feature a blind Auction (wrapped gift). We are looking for donations for the auction. Tom Ellington will be the auctioneer.

Resource Management

Michael Gladden reported on a new study performed for the Power Outdoor Equipment Institute. The study was conducted by Dr. Ranajit Sahu, an independent environmental and energy expert and university instructor. The study shows that responsibly managed lawns sequester, or store, significant amounts of carbon, capturing four times more carbon from the air than is produced by the engine of today's lawnmowers. The report and a summary can be found at www.opei.org.

Michael reported that California State License Board wants to partner with CLCA to further discuss the effectiveness of the unlicensed operator enforcement program. Enforcement is most effective through a sting operation along with publicity after the fact. We are planning to have a dinner meeting with CSLB.

State Liason

Frank Niccoli reported that Bill Schnetz will be the next State CLCA President.

Survey - Frank reported on the results of the CLCA Survey which questioned members on what issues are of major importance to them.

Insurance affordability	.82%
Water restrictions	.82%
Increased cost of doing business	80%
Immigration issues	.77%
Transportation issues	.76%
Underground economy	.69%
Labor issues	.68%
Excessive bureaucratic oversight	59%
Shifting consumer tastes	.58%
Storm water pollution	.49%
Adapting to technology	.39%

State Water Manager Certification Test - 260 people have passed the test and twenty-one are fully certified.

Frank also reported on the water certification test which will be given at Foothill College on August 4th at 5:30 p.m. Test fees will be waived for students who take the sustainability course prior to the test. See the state CLCA web site for more information on this state certification.

The summer extravaganza participation numbers are very low and CLCA will be offering discounts soon. Free hotel rooms and discounts are being offered to first time participants.

State Awards – Frank also reported that the Chapter award winners will automatically be eligible to enter the state award competition next year. Chapter and state applications will be uniform and identical. Payment made to the state will finalize the entry.

State Chapter Services

Michelle Gaspar reported that next years leadership conference will be in Los Angeles.

Chapter Project

Rick Camin reported that this year's project recipients want to offer a thank you party to all those who donated their time and recourses for their garden. Date to be determined.

Student Club – Foothill College

Julia Pollex told us that she has been elected to a second term as president of the Horticultural Club.

Seven contractors came to speak to the horticultural club about their lives and experiences as a landscape contractor. Presenters were Kevin Burns, Jim Link, Stephanie Curtis, Ryan Marlinghaus, James Walker, Craig Rapp and Frank Niccoli. It was a great success.

Julia will be bringing the new club board members periodically to the chapter board meetings.

Etc. Etc.

Craig reported that the San Francisco Flower and Garden Show will be moving from the Cow Palace to the San Mateo Events Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.