

**LIA BOARD MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 5, 2010, 6:00 P.M.
RALPH AND KACOO'S RESTAURANT
BATON ROUGE, LA**

The meeting began at 6:27 P.M. with Wayne Orton welcoming everyone and asking them to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Voting members present were: Mike Goree, Julie Mouch Broussard, John R. Kavanaugh, Wayne Orton and Gary Joye. Non-voting Board Members present were Allen Owings and Severn C. Doughty, Sr. Guests present were Jack Hopper, Andy Blumberg and Barry Blumberg. Four voting members present represents a quorum and five attended.

Wayne asked everyone to review the minutes of the last Board Meeting and if acceptable move that they be accepted. Gary Joye moved, seconded by John R. Kavanaugh, to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Wayne asked Severn to present the financial report. Severn stated that revenues from June 1, to August 31, 2010 were \$11,580.24 and expenses for the same period were \$6,816.69. Revenues over expenses were \$4,763.55 and the checking account balance was \$17,380.45. Severn also stated that we had \$6,030.37 in the savings account. There being no questions, Mike Goree moved, seconded by Julie Mouch Broussard to accept the financial report as presented. Motion carried.

Wayne asked Severn to report on the membership. Severn stated that as of October, 4, 2010 there were 73 members and of those there were 15, two year memberships (2010 – 2011) and 2 paid through 2012.

Wayne asked Severn to report on the LIA website. Severn stated that there were about the same amount of page views as was reported at the last Board Meeting and he encouraged the Board to encourage the membership to go to the website. Our greatest asset was our training offerings and he has been referring members and non-members to go to the website to see the training opportunities.

Wayne asked Allen Owings to report on the Newsletter. Allen stated that the July, August and September Newsletter had been mailed and there were a total of 13 pages, two technical columns each by Peter Gallagher and Ron Sheffield and a member profile.

Wayne then asked Barry Blumberg for a Blumberg and Associates, Inc., insurance report. Barry stated that that they were going to offer a new policy titled AlwaysCare an affordable voluntary Dental Plan. For more information contact Barry or Andy at 225-767-1442 or andy@blumberggassoc.com. Barry further indicated that they had sent an email blast to the LIA membership followed by one sent by LIA and it proved very beneficial as they wrote 5 new policies as a result. They received 15 to 20 calls and gave a number of quotes too. Coming soon will be a term life policy offered by Royal Bank of Canada and available through Blumberg and Associates, Inc.

Wayne moved on to Old Business and asked Severn to provide the Profit and Loss Statement for the Basic Class held July 28, 29, 2010 at the Hammond Research Station. Revenues were \$10,890.00, expenses were \$2,041.31 and revenues over expenses totaled \$8,848.69. Allen Owings was concerned over the cost of printing the Basics Class manuals and said he would look into what it would cost to print them through the LSU Print Shop. There being no more comments, Mike Goree moved, seconded by John R, Kavanaugh, to accept the Profit and Loss Statement. Motion passed.

Wayne asked Severn to report on the Basics Class evaluation. Severn stated that 24 of the 34 participants returned evaluations. All in all the comments were very favorable about the class content, instructor, location and refreshments. For a copy of the evaluation, please contact Severn at 318-872-4677 or scd357@cmaaccess.com.

Wayne moved on to New Business by asking Severn to report on the LIA Directories. Severn stated that Membership Directories were sent to the Membership in July and apparently many reviewed their contact information as there were a number of members who called to make corrections. Those were made to the data base and Severn appreciates all who called to make the corrections.

Wayne opened the discussion pertaining to the purchase of more IA courses. There was a lively discussion and finally Mike Goree moved, seconded by Wayne Orton, to purchase a 1 day class titled, 'Irrigation System Installation and Maintenance'. Motion carried and it was ordered on October 11, 2010 from IA.

Wayne indicated to the Board that at the last Board Meeting, Severn had a difficult time at Lea's Restaurant paying for the meal as the restaurant did not want to accept an LIA check. Wayne felt that LIA should have two credit cards in order to make payments for LIA expenses. Mike Goree stated that at one time LIA did have a credit card but it was cancelled. Consequently, Mike Goree moved, seconded by John R. Kavanaugh for Severn to acquire an American Express and Discover credit cards. Motion passed.

Wayne asked Severn to discuss the newly proposed and revised LIA Membership Application Form with the Board. Severn indicated that he had made a number of corrections and improvements to the Membership Application Form notably removing the credit card method of payment in favor of paying online through PayPal. After the Board reviewed the form, Julie stated that we needed to change the officer's titles and Wayne stated we needed to add the two year membership categories. The Board was pleased with the additions and corrections and instructed Severn to have the new form printed.

Wayne stated that there were a few add-on agenda items and the first was: An agreement between LDAF and LIA to monitor and verify training attendance when an LDAF inspector was unable to attend recertification training. The Board felt this would be fine and asked Wayne and Severn to work out the details.

Wayne stated that he felt that Severn's salary should be increased and asked the Board how they felt about it. The Board felt that Severn was doing a good job and should be compensated for his performance. Consequently, Mike Goree moved, seconded by John R. Kavanaugh to raise Severn's salary by \$200.00/month to \$1,000.00 total a month and that would become effective January 1, 2011. Motion passed.

Allen Owings offered another add-on agenda item by asking the Board if they would make a \$1,000.00 contribution to the Louisiana Nursery Landscape Foundation for Scholarship and Research (LNLFSR) Gala as a Bronze Sponsor. The Gala will be held on Thursday, October 28, 2010, 6:30 to 9:30 P.M. in the New Visitor's Center at the LSU Rural Life Museum on the Burden Plantation grounds in Baton Rouge, LA. After little discussion Julie Mouch Broussard moved, seconded by Gary Joye to become a Bronze Sponsor and donate \$1,000.00 to LNLFSR. Motion passed.

There being no more business, Gary Joye moved, seconded by Mike Goree, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried and the meeting concluded at 9:20 P.M.