

**ISA TEXAS CHAPTER**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Elgin, Texas**  
**January 24, 2003**

**MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

**Melinda Adams**  
**Renee Burke Brown**  
**Melanie Kirk**  
**Russell Peters**  
**James Tuttle**  
**Pat Wentworth**

**Courtney Blevins**  
**John Giedraitis**  
**James Koenig**  
**Mark Peterson**  
**Mike Walterscheidt**  
**Bryan White**

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**Duncan Brooks**  
**Stacy Catalani**

- I. Call to order:** The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by President Adams and she declared a quorum present.
- II. Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made to approve the minutes as published with the correction of adding James Tuttle as present at the last meeting. Motion seconded and passed.
- III. Reports**
  - A. Treasurer:** The treasurers report was submitted by Mike Walterscheidt as part of the budget report that will be discussed later. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report, seconded, and approved.
  - B. Editor:** Courtney Blevins reported that the Newsletter would be out next week, Everyone should get information to him.
  - C. Liaison:** Mike Walterscheidt said there would be ISA Board Meeting in Pittsburgh that he would not be able to attend. It was decided that James Tuttle would represent the Chapter. Walterscheidt reported that ISA is ahead of budget for the year and there are 14,992 members. Certification is 11% ahead of last year for new applications.
  - D. Executive Director:** Mike Walterscheidt reported that everything is going well with the chapter. There we no questions from the Board.

## **E. Committee Reports**

**Convention 2002:** A report was submitted by Peterson and Walterscheidt That showed a net profit to ISAT for the conference of \$748.85. This was due to low attendance, high expenses for the Awards Gala, and the cost of speakers.

**Convention 2003:** The convention will be held in Waco at the Hilton on October 30 & 31, 2003. The committee consists of Courtney Blevins, chair, Renee Burke Brown, Russell Peters, Gene Gehring, and Mark Peterson. The schedule has not been finalized, but will have Kim Coder and Dave Appel as the speakers. Registration is expected to be around \$125. Members of student chapters will be \$25.00. Some vendors may be present. Mike Walterscheidt will get with Melinda Adams to develop a survey for members to see what they want from ISAT.

**Tree Climbing Championship:** A press release has been developed. The mayor of Dallas will climb as part of a demonstration. This will be a highly publicized event with the chance for ISA to shine. The hope is to break even, but with the workshop the day prior there should be a profit. The workshop will be on cabling..

**Arbor Day:** The state Arbor Day will be in Brownsville on April 25. The president will be invited and there will be a certification examination as part of the overall event.

**Certification:** Pat Wentworth reported on the success of the program. There are currently 372 Certified Arborists in the Texas Chapter. The program made a profit of \$11,600 in Texas for 2002. A list of exam dates was distributed and will be placed on the website. There was a short discussion of the Master Certified Arborist Program and other programs that are being developed by ISA. A list of workshop CEU opportunities was also distributed.

**Research Trust:** A report relayed through Adams from Hagen stated there would be a TREE FUND meeting in San Antonio in late February. He also asked for ISAT to support a workshop for the TREE FUND on communication skills for arborists. A motion was made and seconded to support a workshop with the proceeds to be distributed 80% TREE FUND and 20% scholarships, motion passed.

**Membership:** Walterscheidt reported membership was about 490. There was some discussion on use of mailing list of the National Urban Forestry Conference in San Antonio. A motion was made and seconded to provide a set of labels to John Giedraitis for this conference, motion passed.

**Workshops:** Melinda Adams distributed a calendar for the Texas Chapter for the year. Proposed workshops included one in College Station, Certification in DFW area, pesticides in San Antonio, and the communications skills in San Antonio. Gene Gehring has accepted the chair of the workshop committee.

**Awards:** Pat Wentworth was presented the award for the Arborist of the Year. A list of awards was distributed. It was decided to present the ISAT Awards at the Waco Conference in Waco. James Koenig accepted membership on this committee.

**Publicity:** Tuttle reported the need for information at least 8 weeks prior to the event.

**Historian:** No report, Melinda asked Renee Burke Brown to chair this committee.

**Appraisal:** Peters reported no new information. The committee is still trying to get the information together.

**Scholarship:** Walterscheidt reported it is being taken care of.

#### **IV. Old Business**

- A. There was some discussion on grants. It was suggested that Mike Walterscheidt look into getting a 501-3c designation to make grant writing easier.
- B. A mention of the Storms Over the Urban Forest Workshop in Texarkana.

#### **V. New Business**

- A. **Review of Executive Director:** The Board went into Executive session with the Executive Director excused. It was decided the Executive Committee would do this review on February 11.
- B. **Website:** It was suggested to change the name of the website to isatexas.com. A motion was made and seconded to change the name to isatexas.com, motion passed. There should be more links. Blevins will put an article into the newsletter asking for a volunteer webmaster. There was some discussion on the arborist listing and it will be fixed.
- C. **Budget:** There was some discussion on the proposed budget. Some suggested changes were made in Newsletter advertising, tree climbing championship and the certification. These are incorporated in the attached budget. A motion was made and seconded to approve the budget as amended, motion passed.

**D. License proposal:** TUFC is trying to get a tree license plate approved. A motion was made and seconded to endorse the license plate, motion passed.

**VI. Next Board Meeting will be May 16 at 10:00 a.m in Waco.**

**VII.** A motion was made to adjourn, seconded, motion approved. The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted:**

**Michael J. Walterscheidt**  
**Executive Director**