Your Board Meeting Report

Your board met on June 19 and 20, 1998. Following are key details of the meeting.

STMA continues to be on solid ground financially. The 1998 Conference was a financial success, with income over expenses above the Conference budget projections. Membership for 1998 has topped the 1,200 mark, and continues to grow. In one more step to insure fiscal stability for your association, the board directed additional funds be moved to the reserve fund (above the 75 percent of the year-end surplus from 1996 and 1997, as previously approved by the board). The reserve fund can only be used with the approval of 2/3 of the board.

Board member Tim Moore, Chair of the Awards and Scholarships Committee, reviewed plans to insure individuals and facilities will receive greater recognition, both at the annual Conference and throughout the industry. (An Awards Booklet was included in your Roster and Compendium mailing. It contains all the information for entering a field for Field of the Year and nominating an individual for one of the Founders Awards.) Scholarship application information will be sent to each student member, and to those two and four year colleges listed at Headquarters. If you have a student or a college you'd like to make sure receives this information, please contact Headquarters.)

Board member Bob Campbell, Chair of the Membership Committee, recommended, and the board approved, further outreach by state in conjunction with turfgrass extension educators. Headquarters is charged with coordinating this. Membership is growing, but STMA does have some previous members who have not renewed membership for 1998. A board member will be contacting each of these individuals to determine why they have not renewed.

Board member Mary Owen, Education Committee and Conference Education Committee Chair, reviewed the Conference educational program to date with the board and board input was provided. Board member Bob Curry, Conference Exhibits Chair, reviewed the trade show and Products on Parade plans. Steve Trusty outlined the Seminar on Wheels plans. The board amended the Conference budget to allow additional funds for the Awards presentations, and approved the budget as amended.

Board Member Tom Burns, Category I Committee Chair, presented the results of a survey that was sent to NFL and MLB sports turf managers and outlined plans to help STMA better meet the needs of Category I members.

The Board officially recognized two new affiliated chapters: the Great Lakes Chapter: STMA (GLSTMA) and the Michigan Sports Turf Managers Association (MiSTMA).

The Board reviewed the Certification Committee report and areas of recommendation submitted by Co-Chairs Dale Getz and Steve Trusty, approving the majority of the recommendations, asking for clarification on a few points, and authorizing the funding to keep this program moving forward.

The next STMA Board Meeting will be held on October 23 and 24, 1998, in St. Louis, Missouri, site of the year 2000 Conference.

Questions? Comments? Great Ideas? Member input is always welcome. Please contact Headquarters or any of your Board members. (They are all listed on page 2 of this newsletter.)