

STMA Board Meeting Report

(Part 2 from the July 11 - 12, 1997 Board Meeting)

In response to questions about when commercial members were authorized to serve in positions other than Commercial Category Board Member and Commercial Vice President, the bylaws committee, headed by Past-President Greg Petry, researched past records. Petry reported that in October of 1993, a bylaws change was put before the STMA membership due to a lack of non-commercial members with the time and resources to serve on the board of directors. Bylaws prior to that time had read: Persons engaged in commercial enterprise providing services or products to the sports turf profession, upon payment of dues and being accepted for membership, may become an active voting member and are eligible to hold elective office only as a Director or Vice President. The proposed change as submitted to a vote of the membership read: *Persons engaged in a commercial enterprise providing services or products to the sports turf profession, upon payment of dues and being accepted for membership, may become an active voting member and are eligible to hold elective office.* At the November 5, 1993, STMA Board Meeting, it was reported that "the vote on the bylaws change was eight to one in favor of allowing commercial members to hold officer positions other than Commercial Vice President."

In response to inflationary pressures over the last several years, STMA dues will be moving up a notch in all categories except student members for 1998. In Categories I through IV, (professional members at all facilities, educators, researchers) and Category VII (international non-commercial members) annual dues will be \$85 per year. In Category V (commercial members) dues will be \$195 for the first member of a commercial company and \$50 for each additional member from the same commercial company. Category VI (student [non-voting] members) rates remain at \$20.

Again for 1998, the board

approved a new member drive beginning in the fall. For all new members joining STMA from October 1, 1997, through December of 1997, the initial membership "year" extends through December 31, 1998. (STMA membership is based on the calendar year from January 1st through December 31st.) So, if you know someone who has put off joining STMA because the year is "nearly over," you can let them know it's a great time to sign up.

To help all members in their own budgeting and accounting procedures, STMA membership fees for both national and individual chapters again may be paid along with Conference registration. There is a blank on your Conference registration form for the amount and, if you

are including Chapter membership, a sheet enclosed to note which Chapter. You also may use that sheet to update any information, such as a change in job title or address, or in phone or fax number, or the addition of an e-mail address.

The Board's next meeting is November 14th and 15th in Mesa, Arizona, site of the 1999 STMA Annual 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.)

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