



The American Peony Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes May 21, 2020 | 6:30pm (Central)

Conference Bridge:

United States: (712) 775-7031
Canada: (716) 293-9620 and then (712) 775-7031
Access Code: 220-302-666 #

Limits: This meeting will be limited to a maximum of 90 minutes. Any unfinished business will be resumed at our next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2020.

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

In Attendance: *Nate Bremer, Hazel Cook, Adriana Feng, Kris Jurik, David Maltby, David Michener, Mary Muellner, Linette Sorrentino, Cory Tischman, Lorē Sampson, and Piet Wierstra were in attendance.*

Absent: *Carol Adelman, Mike Miller, Kent Tretheway, and Scott Parker*

Called to Order: 6:30PM CST

II. Reading and Approval of Minutes – Mary Muellner

Please review the minutes of our BOD on 03-19-2020 prior to our call. Are there additions or corrections?

Reviewed the minutes. One correction noted - regarding a misspelling. Correction was made and minutes approved.

III. President's Report – Lorē Sampson

Welcome and thanks

Embassy Suites Cancellation

- Good news! After much back and forth, the hotel finally agreed to refund the \$2,000 deposit for the hotel and not require other payment for the cancellation due to the pandemic.

Plans for holding elections during the pandemic

- General Membership Meeting -
- Need to provide notice 30 days notice for the meeting.
- A quorum is of 10 is required according to the bylaws.

- If holding the general meeting using a conference call; then toll free number(s) would be required and would need to accommodate international participation.
- Discussion on when would be a good time to hold the general membership meeting. A Saturday afternoon July was discussed.
- Need to do member notification.
- Option of adding up to three additional directors.
- Option of possibly doing voting
- Hazel motioned the Board of Directors approve that the virtual attendance to the meets the requirement of the bylaws for 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Need to elect the officers.
- At the next meeting, we need to vote on the Gold Medal winning peony; then announce the winner.
- Working with the nominating committee to work further details.
- Next Board Meeting schedule for: Thursday, June 11

IV. Treasurer's Report – Kris Jurik

The Treasurer's Report was presented. Key concerns being cash on hand is low, as well as the state of the Edward Jones account due to the downturn in the stock market as a result of the pandemic.

V. Committee and Special Projects Reports:

Membership Report - Linette Sorrentino, Membership Chair
(see attached report)

"Un-CONVENTION-al" Auction - Mary Muellner, Auction Chair

- **Donations still needed!**
 - We have a good start on the auction listing; but continue to need more donations.
 - The auctions are our primary fundraisers, so need to be successful.
- **Online Preview: ???**
 - Plan to get online preview available a week prior to the start of the auction.
- **Dates: June 11-14**
 - Prior meetings had discussion regarding the auction being the same weekend the convention had been scheduled.
 - Discussion on having the auction open on Thursday to maximize time for bidding.
 - Auction will run with the same rules as the previous fall's auction, specifically all bidding ends at closing.
- **Member Instructions and Registration**
 - Instructions for bidder registration, or sign in need to be added to website and made available to members.

Website Portal - Nate Bremer

- Updates and additional content needs
 - Can add submission documents
 - Can solicit info from members

Awards Committe - Carol Adelman

Gold Medal Award - Update on nominations received; plans for vetting nominees based on observable considerations prior to voting

- Voting on Gold Medal Award will occur at next meeting. No other discussion.

Virtual Peony Photograpy Show - Linette Sorrentino, Exhibition Co-Chair Quick Update

- Will we have the Photography Show without the Convention?
- Later in the summer, July would be a possibility.
- Would need someone to volunteer and take charge of the show.

VI. New Business:

- Brief discussion on unregistered patented peonies being offered for the auction.
- Conventions - some changes, including adding New York prior to Chicago
 - **Current Planned Locations**
 - Minnesota Show 6/12/2021-6/13/2021, Bloomington Hilton
 - 2022 Michigan
 - 2023 New York
 - 2024 Chicago Botanical Garden
 - 2025 Ohio
- Next Bulletin - Discussion on when will it be mailed to members. The mailing was promoted as June.

Other New Projects:

VII. Motion to Adjourn

- *Motion to adjourn made, seconded and passed.*