



American Peony Society Board of Directors Meeting Minutes August 26, 2021 | 6:30 p.m. CDT

Call to Order / Roll Call

Voting Members in Attendance: *Brandie Orchard, Craig Aiken, Cory Tischman, David Michener, Jill Stevens, Kent Tretheway, Kris Jurik, Leena Liljestrand, Lois Girton, Nate Bremer, Scott Parker, Steve Smith, Piet Wierstra*

Non-Voting Member in Attendance: *Hazel Cook*

Absent Members: *Adriana Feng, David Maltby, David Sorrentino, Linette Sorrentino, Mary Muellner, Mike Miller*

A special meeting of the American Peony Society (APS) was held on August 26, 2021 via Zoom. It began at 6:36 pm CDT and was presided over by Nate Bremer as President, with Cory Tischman as Recording Secretary.

Reading & Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting on April 22, 2021 was made by Nate Bremer. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Officers' Reports

President's Report – Nate Bremer

- See Report
 - Next Bulletin
 - Bulletin submissions due by:
 - October 11 for Q4 Bulletin
 - November 22 for Q1 Bulletin
 - Discussed getting details together of 2022 Michigan Convention into the bulletin for public
 - Will send more details out to the BOD for discussion
 - Annual General Membership Meeting
 - October 14th 6:30pm CDT via Zoom and announced in bulletin and website
 - Ask to present some of the committees to the public
 - Will announce election voting results for BOD
 - Send out condensed version of the minutes and ratify minutes

Treasurer's Report – Kris Jurik

- Some of the money received from the auction is in “transit” (i.e., not in the bank)
- Fiscal year ended on June 30th and is working on a report
 - \$3946.50 in seeds sales for fiscal year
- \$84,867 combined amount in checking and savings
- Over \$100k in Edward Jones
- Renewed insurance for BOD
- Discussion of setting up awards/grants to donate to
 - Put on To-Do list to flesh it out later

Committees and Special Projects Reports

Auction Committee Report – Lois Girton

- See Report
 - Adding in section for Canada for the auction
 - Issues with bidders not in Canada bidding which created issues
 - Discussion of having EU as part of the APS fall auction
 - European growers donating for EU members to bid

Award of Landscape Merit (ALM) Report – Jill Stevens & Cory Tischman

- No report

Awards Committee Report – Steve Smith

- No Report

Books Committee Report – Mike Miller

- No Report

Bulletins & Publications Committee Report – Kim Bremer

- No Report

Commercial Members Committee Report -- Piet Wierstra

- No Report

Convention Steering & Planning Committee Report – Linette Sorrentino

- No Report

Exhibition Committee Report – David & Linette Sorrentino

- No Report

International Outreach Committee Report – Leena Liljestrand & Cory Tischman

- No Report

Membership Committee Report – Linette Sorrentino

- See Report

Mentorship Committee Report – Kent Tretheway

- Kent noted there has been some activity and has been getting people set up
 - Person needing planting tips (New York)
 - Finding suitable peonies for zone 8 (Texas)
 - Ward-Meade Park Botanical Gardens in Topeka trying to complete a collection of Bigger peonies (Topeka, Kansas) – they have about half
 - Woman in Michigan may have more of the Bigger peonies
 - Haven't found any new mentors lately

Nomenclature Committee Report

- No Report

Seed Distribution Program Committee Report – Scott Parker

- No Report

Scientific & Horticultural Studies Committee Report – David Michener

- No Report

Speakers Chair Committee – Lois Girton

- No Report

Social Media & Website Committee Report

- No Report

Youth Program Committee Report

- No Report

Correspondence

- No new correspondence

Unfinished Business

- To-Do List
 - Promoting APS
 - APS T-Shirts/Hat for Convention
 - Brochures/business cards/etc.
 - Book signing
- Michigan Convention Details
 - Theme: Hundred Years in Bloom
 - Joint marketing in the works and lots of moving parts
 - Two sites involved
 - Linette and David Sorrentino have been working with the event coordinator
 - Two options: 20 tables (free option) or 50 tables (\$7000)
 - Expecting attendance of over 10,000 in the four days
 - Options will be presented to the BOD to look at the contract and budget
 - 10-4:30pm for times for speakers to be scheduled
 - Ann Arbor running tours are between the peony garden and botanical gardens to make a loop for people

New Business

- None

Discussion

- Annual General Membership & Ratification Meeting in October.
- Photo and literature reuse policy review
 - General agreement that APS will not grant permission for reuse of photos and literature due to an inordinate amount of complications it creates
- Inclusion of EU in Auction and how to make it happen
- Revision of bylaws
 - Set up a subcommittee to work on them and discuss in future meetings

Motions

- None

Adjournment

Nate Bremer moved that the meeting be adjourned and this was agreed upon at 8:13pm CDT.

Next Meeting: October 14, 2021 at 6:30pm CDT for the Annual General Membership Meeting via Zoom.