

5/24/2018. 6:00 P.M. American Peony Society Board of Directors Meeting. Portland Oregon. Revised 6/20/2018

In attendance: Scott Parker, Lore Sampson, Don Hollingsworth, Piet Wierstra, Carol Adelman, Kent Tretheway, Mike Miller, Kris Jurik, Linette Sorrentino, Adriana Feng, Nate Bremer. **Absent: Hazel Cook, Cary Dennis, Jeannine Lemmens.**

1. Lore Sampson made motion to approve last meeting's minutes. Motion carried.
2. Carol Adelman discussed problems with award selection and last year's selection of 'Lois' Choice' as Gold Medal winner. More on this in later items.
 - a. Scott thanks Lore for the organizational work on this year's convention. Many happy people that are enjoying the venue and programming.
 - b. Scott thanks Linette for her continued work on membership and other projects that have benefited the APS.
3. Kris Jurik gave treasurer's report.
 - a. \$98, 587.00 in treasury
 - b. Revenue is down overall, mostly due to commercial memberships not paid or renewed
 - c. Bulletin timing has been problematic and commercial members may be displeased with advertising that is targeted at a time frame that is not met.
 - d. Kris recommended that commercial memberships be allowed to be made for more than one year at a time.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Seed Distribution Program: Scott Parker reports good sales, but down a bit from last year. Many foreign orders. Old seeds will be liquidated this year and next year will have all new seeds from donations.
 - b. Membership: Linette Sorrentino reported 478 current members. Commercial memberships down. 97 life memberships which are costly to the society.
 - c. Website: Adriana Feng reports cultivars registrations have been updated. Exhibition information will be updated soon. Will update fall auction dates on website. Has found almost all images of past awarded peonies and will make them available on the website. 'A.B. Franklin' remains a needed image. Scott Parker reports that Fina Gardens may have a photo we could use, as they grow this plant for cut flower purposes.
 - d. Bulletin: Lore Sampson is working to rectify release times. She needs someone to contact Regional and International Societies for informational updates to go in the Bulletin. Kris Jurik volunteered to manage annual advertisements (contact and guide advertisers).
 - e. Committee work in general: Lore would like more involvement from the general membership. Personally asking for help will prove the best way to get people on board.
 - f. Exhibition: Linette Sorrentino reports that format changes have been made to schedule from last year.
 - i. Would like to see unnamed cultivars moved to Class 406. One single bloom. May not advance to the Court of Honor. Linette made motion to add this to next year's exhibition schedule. Motion carried.
 - g. New Cultivars: 67 new cultivars were registered and processed by Reiner Jakubowski this year. The Bulletin has limited room each issue to display new cultivars, thus they are spread across a number of issues throughout the year.
 - h. Corresponding Secretary: Hazel Cook reports receiving 200 online contacts this past year. Hazel was unable to attend for a second year in a row, which causes her eligibility as a Director to lapse. Hazel was asked to continue her good work as contact person Corresponding Secretary, as it is not necessary for a director to fill this office. She has agreed to do so.
5. Unfinished Business:
 - a. Future Convention Locations

- i. 2019 Iowa
 - ii. 2020 Chicago? Linette has tried repeated to talk to someone at the Chicago Botanic Gardens about this as a possibility, but has had no reply. Scott will discuss this with Roy Klehm, who may have the ability to assist and get things moving.
 - iii. 2021 Minnesota
 - iv. 2022 Michigan
6. ALM Committee Discussion: Scott Parker called for a volunteer to take over the ALM Committee, as Lore Sampson's duties as newly elected APS president will consume more time than she has available. Adriana Feng volunteered to work as chairman of this committee and note was taken that she is interested. Lore Sampson called for a point of order to remind Scott, that it is the incoming president's job to appoint committee chairmen within their first 30 days in office. Following elections, Lore will be working on these appointments and will notify everyone when this task has been completed. In the meantime, she appreciates all who have volunteered to chair committees.
7. Gold Medal discussion: The GM's criteria for selection has changed over the years. In recent years selection has been problematic due to the changing use, types and view of peonies. The BOD discussed how to best select a cultivar to avoid selecting something that is less than what the APS can back. Availability is important-agreed. Something the APS can back with confidence-agreed. Members deciding must have an educated experience with the plant itself-agreed. This is a flower award, not for the plant (ALM)-agreed.
 - a. Adriana Feng supplied a list of possibilities that were gathered from nominations. The group eliminated: plants not widely available, high cost plants and inconsistent performers that the APS could not back. Experienced growers of the peonies spoke up to remove certain cultivars from the list and this appeared to be a successful method that would allow the APS to stand behind the selection.
 - b. 2018 Gold Medal Winner: 'Pietertje Vriend Wagenaar'; Runner Up: 'Jan Van Leeuwen'.
8. Fall Root Auction: Call to find donors. Perhaps an article about the auction to promote it. David Sorrentino has tested 'Auctria' an online auction program and it appears that it will work well for this purpose.
9. Exhibition: Any sponsors of awards need to pay Linette Sorrentino. Help will be needed on the floor of the flower show.
10. Commercial Membership. Adriana made the motion that the APS additionally offer three & five year memberships for commercial members. This should help to keep these busy members with the APS continuously. Renewing each year is often problematic and members forget to do so. Motion carried.
11. Proposed nominations for new BOD members:
 - a. Cory Tischman
 - b. David Michener
 - c. David Maltby
 - d. Mary Muellner
12. Directors returning for another term:
 - a. Scott Parker
 - b. Lore Sampson
 - c. Kent Tretheway
 - d. Kris Jurik
 - e. Piet Wierstra
 - f. Carol Adelman
 - g. Mike Miller
 - h. Adriana Feng
 - i. Nate Bremer
13. Proposed officers for 2018-19

- a. Lore Sampson-President
- b. Nate Bremer-Vice President
- c. Kris Jurik-Treasurer
- d. Mary Muellner-Recording Secretary
- e. Hazel Cook-Corresponding Secretary

14. Piet Wierstra made the motion to adjourn. Motion carried!

Submitted by Nate Bremer, recording secretary.