



American Peony Society Board of Directors Meeting Minutes November 5, 2020 | 6:30 p.m. CST

Call to Order / Roll Call

Voting Members in Attendance: *Craig Aiken, Cory Tischman, David Maltby, David Michener, Jill Stevens, Kent Tretheway, Kris Jurik, Linette Sorrentino, Lois Girton, Mary Muellner, Nate Bremer, Scott Parker, Steve Smith*

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: *David Sorrentino, Hazel Cook*

Absent Members: *Adriana Feng, Brandie Orchard, Leena Liljestrand, Mike Miller, Piet Wierstra*

A regularly scheduled meeting of the American Peony Society (APS) was held on November 5, 2020 via Zoom. It began at 6:33 pm CST 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 September 3, 2020. No corrections were made, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Officers' Reports

President's Report – Nate Bremer

- See attached report

Treasurer's Report – Kris Jurik

- Sent several reports (see attached reports)
- CD for \$8k matured and will be reinvested for another yearz
- Discussion about Missouri PO Box with mailed membership renewals
 - Kris expressed it is more of an annoyance
 - Does the state of Missouri need a mailbox?
 - Kris will investigate it more

Committees and Special Projects Reports

Membership Report – Linette Sorrentino

- See attached report
- Overall doing well
 - 775 members, up 200 members from last year
 - Have 421 memberships that will lapse on 12/31
 - Bulk of them are 1-year renewals
 - Hopes that changes in membership will help with retention, particularly international members
- Discussion of membership staggering vs set calendar year end date
 - Scott urged to study further before making any decisions

Editorial (Bulletin & Directory) Report – Nate Bremer

- See attached report

Advertising Report – Nate Bremer

- See attached report

Website Committee Report – Nate Bremer

- See attached report
- Discussion for new option for advertisers
 - Could commercial members have profiles on the member portal
 - Possibly create a page with images and information for each advertiser

Awards Report – Steve Smith

- See attached report
- Discussion on how to award a non-APS member and the process of soliciting nominations
- No update with having medals being used
 - Steve Smith will investigate cost

Auction Committee – Mary Muellner

- See attached report

Correspondence

- No new correspondence

Unfinished Business

- Hathi Trust Digital Library – David Michener
 - Explored further Hathi Trust staff
 - They have everything scanned up to 2016
 - Missing 2006 and 2007 in scans and need to find
 - Discussion with needing a release from the BOD
 - Will be releasing anything seven years or older
 - Will create a user instruction on how to access the bulletins
- To-Do List – David Michener
 - *Reviewed the following:*
 - **Convention manual**
 - Started writing job description for exhibition subcommittees
 - Will be completed and uploaded to the APS portal
 - Has a template for budgeting for the convention
 - Extension for timeline getting manual completed
 - Needing name for exhibition
 - David shared details of what has been prepared so far for the 2022 APS convention for Michigan
 - Show will be at the Matthaei Botanical Gardens
 - Shared possible \$45k for budget at this time
 - Will get information together after the New Year for BOD to look over

New Business

- 2021 Budget
 - Nate Bremer and Kris Jurik will be working on this
 - Will need input from committees
- Wire-fee payments – Kris Jurik

- Will charge \$30 if people want to wire in money
- Advertisers want to wire advertising fee but cost APS banking fees
- Proposed Meeting Dates for 2021 (Quarterly as decided by BOD)
 - February 11, 2021; 6:30 Central Time via Zoom
 - April 22, 2021; 6:30 Central Time via Zoom
 - BOD Planning Meeting & Ratification at Annual Convention June 10 to 14
 - August 26, 2021; 6:30 Central Time via Zoom
 - November 4, 2021; 6:30 Central Time via Zoom

Discussion

- 2022 Convention
 - discussed the logistics who can be asked for sponsorships working towards offsetting costs
- 2023 Convention
 - Craig Aiken has been in contact with Hamilton College and Linwood gardens for tours and other smaller garden tours
 - Looking into different hotel options now
 - David will send Craig info with reserving rooms

Motions

Motion: David Michener moves that the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society release the copyright of the Bulletin of the American Peony Society in a rolling retroactive 7-year window. Scott Parker made an amendment to the motion: "Furthermore, David Michener of the Board of Directors is authorized to resolve this with the Hathi Digital Trust." Seconded by Nate Bremer. No discussions were made. The motion with the amendment carried with unanimous in favor.

Motion: David Maltby moves to accept the 2021 meeting dates as stated in the agenda for the APS BOD. Seconded by David Michener. No discussions were made. The motion carried with unanimous in favor.

Adjournment

Nate Bremer moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:14pm CST.

Next Meeting: February 11, 2021 6:30pm CST via Zoom

Minutes submitted by Cory Tischman