



American Peony Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 22, 2021 | 6:30 p.m. CDT

Call to Order/Roll Call

Voting Members in Attendance: *Brandie Orchard, Cory Tischman, David Maltby, David Michener, Jill Stevens, Kris Jurik, Leena Liljestrand, Linette Sorrentino, Lois Girton, Mary Muellner, Mike Miller, Nate Bremer, Piet Wierstra, Scott Parker, Steve Smith*

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

Absent Members: *Adriana Feng, Craig Aiken, Kent Tretheway*

A regularly scheduled meeting of the American Peony Society (APS) was held on April 22, 2021 via Zoom. It began at 6:37 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 February 02, 2021 made by Nate Bremer. No corrections were made, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Officers' Reports

President's Report – Nate Bremer

- *See report*
 - Encourage BOD to stay on top of email correspondence, when possible
 - Thanked David & Linette Sorrentino for the Minnesota convention, which was moved to 2024

Treasurer's Report – Kris Jurik

- *See reports*
 - Didn't owe anything this year but may owe some in taxes next year
 - Renewed insurance for BOD in April
 - Reserved hotel for next year's convention
 - Will renew license in May

Committees and Special Projects Reports

International Outreach Meeting Minutes – Leena Liljestrand & Cory Tischman

- *See report*
 - Discussion of seeing increased number of unregistered peonies and if there are ways to encourage them to register them

Website – Nate Bremer

- *See report*
 - Very busy with traffic and needing an upgrade in server

Awards Committee Report – Steve Smith, Brandie Orchard, & Craig Aiken

- *See report*
 - 100 medals made and will be looking into laser engraving options

Membership Report – Linette Sorrentino

- *See report*

Correspondence

- No new correspondence but very busy

Unfinished Business

- Minnesota Convention – David and Linette Sorrentino
 - Cancelled for 2020 and rescheduled for 2024, with no penalties occurred, and new contract
- 2021 Virtual/Alternative Convention Overview -- Nate Bremer
 - *See President's Report*
 - All set up with speakers and tours to gardens
 - Virtual flower show
 - Cate Crawford and Nick Maycher will be assisting with this
 - Need judges from BOD, and contact Nate if interested
 - Decided to not have spring auction and just one in fall auction
 - Possibly include EU
 - Need to set up time for General Membership meeting
 - Nate will put notification in the next bulletin, possibly in October
- Do we need an additional BOD meeting this summer?
 - Not at this time due to moved general membership meeting
- Awards (Gold Medal Peony and Personal Awards)
 - Gave update on medals and nominations for personal awards and Gold Medal award
 - Nate will be posting list on website for voting for Gold Medal peony this year and next year
- Follow-up on Institutional Members (related to APGA Peony Gardens & FSU networks - Former Soviet Union)
 - Needs to be reviewed this summer due COVID-19, political and civil unrest straining garden staff
- To-Do List – David Michener
 - *See report*
 - P.O. Box keeping but reminder to members to send payment to Kris and not the P.O. Box
 - Hathi Library and Bulletin access – David Michener
 - All set and “ready to roll” and scanned up to 2006
 - Encourage people to try it out and give feedback to how it goes
 - Auction dates – Mary Muellner

- Has some tentative but nothing finalized
- Looking at auction overlap virtual peony show, possibly August 19th to 23rd
- Nate asked for firm date of May 15th to have date decided to have social media promotion

New Business

- Request for funding to purchase small prizes for Virtual Exhibition and other Society initiatives
 - Purchasing mugs

Discussion

- Michigan Convention – David Michener
 - Gave updates with the 2022 Michigan Convention
 - Alexis Ford will be co-chairing and will have two hort leads that will be helping organize and manage the convention
 - Shared possible upcoming tours and how the flower show will work out
 - Date: June 2nd to
- Personnel Discussion – Nate
 - No word from Adriana Feng for some time and no one has heard any word
 - Nate will write letter to Adriana and then share with the BOD before sending it
- Award of Landscape Merit committee status and movement forward
 - Need to collect judges, collect scores, and somewhat rebooting the committee
 - Cory volunteered to co-chair the committee, but will need to need to hear back from Adriana
- Honorariums
 - Will not pursue honorariums at this time
- Non-delivery of the Bulletin and other publications to EU countries
 - Nate will work with Linette to address this concern
 - Have some coverall in the bulletin

Motions

Motion: Scott Parker made a motion for APS to support Nate Bremer's proposal to allocate up \$400.00 to spend to use 4Imprint to produce approximately 72 to 100 mugs for the APS to use. Piet Wiersta seconded the motion. No discussions were made. The motion carried unanimously in favor.

Adjournment

Nate Bremer moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:39pm CST.

Next Meeting: August 26, 2021 6:30pm CDT via Zoom