



American Peony Society

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

June 09, 2024 | 9:00 a.m. CDT

Call to Order / Roll Call

Voting Members in Attendance: *Brandie Orchard, Cory Tischman, David Michener, Jill Stevens, Kent Tretheway Linette Sorrentino, Lois Girton, Lynn Gessling, Mary Muellner, Matt Snyder, Nate Bremer, Nick Maycher, Scott Parker, Steve Smith*

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: *David Sorrentino*

Absent Members: *Melissa Sullivan, Rich Grenier, Sheryl Lawson*

The American Peony Society (APS) Board of Directors Meeting was held on June 09, 2024 in person. It began at 9:04 a.m. CDT and was presided over by Nate Bremer as President, with Cory Tischman as Recording Secretary.

Reading & Approval of Minutes

- No reading or approval of minutes

Officers' Reports

- No officers' reports
- Lynn Gessling (Treasurer) reported the APS currently has \$174,617.24 in all accounts minus the Edward Jones account and will be planning on closing the Edward Jones account and transfer that money into the Money Market account.

Committees and Special Projects Reports

- No committee reports or special projects

Correspondence

- No new correspondence

Unfinished Business

- No unfinished business

New Business

- Linette Sorrentino submitted her resignation as a Director to the Board of Directors effective at the end of the meeting. The Board of Directors accepted Linette's resignation.
- Ratification of the Annual General Membership Meeting Minutes
 - In accordance with the bylaws, the Board of Directors of the American Peony Society convened for an Annual Directors meeting (2024.06.09) following the Annual Membership meeting on Saturday, June 8, 2024 in Bloomington, MN. For the purposes of ratifying minutes and proceedings of the fiscal year 2023-2024, ratification is taking place through a live meeting at the convention with the above named in attendance. The meeting was called to order by the current President, Nate Bremer, and motion was made to ratify said minutes (see 'Motions' section). A record of this meeting will be in place in the APS Administrative Document Storage, within the APS website.

- Induction of Elected Directors
 - The following Director Candidates have been duly elected by membership attending the Annual General Membership Meeting on June 8, 2024 in Bloomington, MN. Elected: Lynn Gessling, Lois Girton, Nick Maycher, David Michener, Mary Muellner, Scott Parker, Steve Smith, Cory Tischman, Kent Tretheway, Piet Wierstra, Matt Snyder, Rich Grenier, Jill Stevens, Brandie Orchard, Melissa Sullivan. The above inductee agreed to the following statement:
 - “As newly elected Directors of the American Peony Society’s Board of Directors do you accept the challenge to provide educational opportunities and support Society activities to improve the ‘Peony’ as stated in our mission and bylaws, and work in good faith as a representative of the organization. And do you promise to work towards goals as set by the Board of Directors and membership through committee and project work. If so, please answer, ‘I will.’”

- Election of Executive Committee for 2024-2026 Term
 - Newly elected and current directors will elect the executive committee and nominated by voice vote (see ‘Motions’ section).
 - **President:** Lois Girton, nominated by Linette Sorrentino
 - **Vice President:** Cory Tischman, nominated by Nate Bremer
 - **Treasurer:** Lynn Gessling, nominated by Cory Tischman
 - **Recording Secretary:** Brandie Orchard, nominated by Lois Girton
 - **Corresponding Secretary:** Sheryl Lawson, nominated by Nate Bremer

Discussion

- David Michener gave an update regarding the donation given by the APS, Wisconsin Peony Society, and Minnesota Peony Society towards virus research at the University of Michigan. Roughly \$11,000 was spent of the rough total of \$30,000 donated.

- Mary Muellner noted the live/silent auction that occurred on June 8, 2024 during the convention totaled 93 items and totaled \$12,457.00 (minus fees for shipping).

- Nate Bremer noted the 2026 convention will be taking place in Philadelphia, PA and discussion was made to determine dates for the convention. It was agreed by the BOD that the convention will take place earlier in the first couple of weeks of May in favor to have the garden tours in bloom vs having a later convention time and not having local peonies in bloom.

Motions

- I, David Michener, make a motion to accept and ratify the 2023-2024 fiscal year minutes and proceedings of the American Peony Society as presented at the General Annual Membership Meeting held on June 8, 2024 in Bloomington, MN. Motion seconded by Cory Tischman. The motion outcome was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- I, Nate Bremer, make a motion to accept the slate of nominations for the Executive Committee (see above). No discussion was made. Motion seconded by Linette Sorrentino. Motion outcome was unanimous in favor for the motion.

Adjournment

Nate Bremer moved that the meeting be adjourned and this was agreed upon at 9:58 a.m. CDT.

Next Meeting: July 18, 2024 via Zoom

Minutes Submitted by: Cory Tischman