

Historic Iris Preservation Society

Minutes of the Board Meeting of April 21, 2022

I. Call to Order

A. The meeting was called to order by President Wendy Scott at 9:02 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time via Zoom.

II. Roll call by Nina Morris, Secretary.

- A. Present: Wendy Scott, Suzanne Butler, Nina Morris, Judy Keisling, Cathy Egerer, Justin Fortunascio, Jessica Kelley, Mike Unser, Allyson Whalley, Randy Smith, Marc Hanes, Susan Flow, Gary White, Nancy McDonald, Laetitia Munro, Tammy Skahan, and Donita McDonald.
- B. Absent: Linda Baumgartner, Lori Vandette, Tim Vanover, and Janet Smith.

III. Additions/Changes to the Agenda

Committee/Chair updates received via email prior to the meeting were marked off the Agenda and a second item was added to New Business.

IV. Approval of the previous meeting minutes

Acknowledgement of Approval

V. Treasurer's Report

- A. Written Financial Report for the First Quarter 2022 was submitted prior to meeting via email to board.
- B. Verbal report by Judy Kiesling: Year to Date Income of \$3,135.59 and Year to Date Expenses of \$3,166.60 for a Year to Date Loss of -\$31.01. Combined with Total Assets at end of 2021, it brings Total Assets as of March 31, 2022, to \$59,523.53.
- C. Major expenses so far this year were website maintenance, insurance premium and postcard printing and postage; major sources of income were dues and sales of the Mahan book. The glass vase also sold well.

VI. President's Report

- A. President Wendy Scott welcomed a new board member, Cynthia (Cynthe) Brush. She will appear on the ballot for Southwest Regional Director.
- B. Wendy reported on the annual Rhizome Sale which will include sales to Canada this year. Complete details will be included in the upcoming issue of *ROOTS* and will be posted on the website in May. She encouraged members to become donors for the sale.
- C. She also presented tentative agenda items for the Annual HIPS Meeting on June 7, 2022.
 - 1. Nominees for Board Member positions on the ballot will be introduced.
 - 2. The Rhizome Sale will be previewed and promoted.
 - 3. Plans for recognizing an important historical iris which was not recognized as such will be discussed.
 - 4. The Distinguished Service Award for 2022 will be awarded.
 - 5. General Questions will be entertained.

VII. Old Business

- A. Committee/Chair Updates
 - 1. Nancy McDonald and Jessica Kelley with Guardian Gardens requested that all GGRs report in and stressed how important it is GG holdings be reported.

2. Nancy also reported that *ROOTS* had gone to the Publisher and thanked Justin Fortanascio and Diane Lynch for their help as assistant editor and proofreader.
 3. Nancy reported that the Policies and Procedures Committee had made some headway and was hoping that progress would be faster now that *ROOTS* had been published.
 4. Marc Hanes, Databank Chair, reported that 54 members had submitted their holdings report directly and that work was being done to interface with the data of the 11 members who had reported on the website. Nancy McDonald believes that, historically, around 75 members usually report so 65 reports for this year compares pretty well. Laetitia Monro inquired if data from the reports carries forward from year to year and it was determined that a member's data is dropped each year if no new report is received. Nancy McDonald suggested an article on the website for guidance on data reporting. A deadline for data submission was then discussed. The last holdings report was in 2018 and was issued in June; Guardian Gardens reports are due on January 31. Wendy suggested that Marc and Jessica choose the dates that work best for them, and both Marc and Jessica agreed that January 31 seemed to be a workable deadline date.
- B. Suzanne Butler reported on this year's AIS Convention. She said it was enjoyable and was glad the wind had died down before the garden tour. Cold weather had delayed iris bloom season there, but some varieties were blooming by the end of the convention. She met some breeders and the Power Point presentation went well. Mike Unser agreed to make the presentation public and Wendy will post a link to it for others to use. A question was also raised as to where HIPS' composite photos are located on the website; Wendy will investigate.

VIII. New Business / Action Items

- A. Incentives for Database Reporting and potential budget amendments were discussed. Per Marc, the incentive program will start next year and the cost of incentives would be covered under the 2023 budget for Promotions. Board members or a special committee would decide the type of incentive to be offered. A special incentive might also be offered for early reporting, and word could be spread via newsletters and Social Media. Jessica is working on a spreadsheet tutorial for Guardian Gardens, which might also prove useful for the Database Reporting.
- B. Purchase of the AIS Iris Check Lists from 1969 and 1979 to help Marc with Air Table entries for Database Reporting was also discussed. Mike Unser or Gary White may have them and be willing to share, so no purchase was authorized.

IX. Other

- A. Gary White then added to the discussion the HIPS award for an under-recognized historic iris. He reported that the AIS has a similar Board of Directors award, but that it has only been awarded three times in 50 years. He suggested that HIPS might look into the criteria that the AIS uses. He also reported the AIS membership promotion will run through the end of June and has resulted in another dozen members.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Cathy to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Suzanne Butler. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 p.m. EDT

Respectfully Submitted by Nina Morris, Secretary