

## **Historic Iris Preservation Society**

Minutes of the Board Meeting of August 31, 2021

### **I. Call to Order**

A. The meeting was called to order by President Wendy Scott at 9:00 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time via Zoom.

### **II. Roll call by Wendy Scott, President.**

- A. Present: Wendy Scott, Suzanne Butler, Nina Morris (late), Judy Keisling, Cathy Egerer, Jessica Kelley, Randy Smith, Linda Baumgartner, Lori Vandette, Susan Flow, Gary White, Nancy McDonald, Laetitia Munro, Tammy Skahan and Tim Vanover.
- B. Absent: Alice Laughlin, Janet Smith, Allyson Whalley, and Lori Lensch-Marcotte.

### **III. Additions/Changes to the Agenda**

Items a. and b. under Old Business on the Agenda will not be addressed.

### **IV. Approval of the previous meeting minutes**

Acknowledgement of Approval

### **V. Treasurer's Report**

- A. Written Interim Financial Report for the year to date was submitted prior to meeting via email to board.
- B. Verbal report by Judy Kiesling: Year-to-Date Income of \$20,514.96 and Year-to-Date Expenses of \$21,019.80 for a Year-to-Date Loss of -\$504.84. Combined with Total Assets at end of 2020, it brings Total Assets as of July 31, 2021, to \$78,902.98.
- C. Major expenses this quarter were website work, two issues of Roots and shipping reimbursement for the Rhizome Sale. Another \$6007.50 will be due in August for website work.

### **VI. President's Report**

- A. President Wendy Scott welcomed two new board members: Jessica Kelley, who has taken over as North Central Regional Director, and Suzanne Butler, who is HIPS' new Vice President.
- B. Wendy also emphasized that it has become clear to the board that the annual Rhizome Sale must be extended to Canada. This will be a goal next year.
- C. HIPS is seeking a HIPS member in the state of Oregon to become a Registered Agent for the group. A contact is required in the state in which HIPS was incorporated.
- D. HIPS will participate in the AIS Webinar on September 8, 2021, at 7:30 CDT. Cathy, Wendy and Nancy will give the presentation.

### **VII. Old Business**

#### **A. Committee/Chair Updates**

- c. Nancy McDonald reported that the Policies and Procedures Committee will meet later this winter.
- d. Susan Flow of the HIPS Shop reported that she has approximately 100 copies of the Mahan book left. She is still selling 3-4 books a month, but postal rates have gone up several times. Flat rate shipping on the book will be \$4.00 on the new website. The new shop will have a special category for digital products.

e. Nancy McDonald reported that Guardian Gardens Program had lots of share-outs this year and is looking forward to more participation next year. California wildfires and drought created problems for some. Jessica Kelley asked that GG inventory reporting begin in the next couple months. Also suggested was a team meeting of Guardian Gardeners after the growing season to verify whether members who appear inactive are still wanting to participate.

f. Tim Vanover of Retail Iris reported that the name has been changed to Historic Iris Marketplace on the website. Vendors will be listed by tiers, depending on their membership status with HIPS. HIPS members can search the Marketplace for a specific iris and get vendor information. All historic iris from the database will be included on the list. Visitors will be able to access the list, but will not be able to search.

g. Wendy Scott and Cathy Egerer reported on the Rhizome Sale. HIPS made almost \$6000.00 profit on the actual sale and donations increased that figure. Mostly good feedback was received. The use of Airtable made it easier than in the past and it may be possible to have a longer donation window in the future.

h. Tim Vanover reported on the website update. He thanked Cathy, Susan and Laetitia for months of work with Webfitters and explained that over half of the cost of the new website was the cost of moving the Gallery. Wendy explained the need for more money for the project, which is \$6000 over budget and not done yet. Cathy estimated it will take another \$5000. Costs were kept as low as possible by doing much of the work in-house and eliminating options. Webfitters also offered a \$2000 credit for allowing their banner on the website. General consensus was that HIPS accept the credit from Webfitters to allow the banner on the website. Wendy recommended that HIPS add another \$5000 to the website overhaul budget. Randy offered the motion and it was seconded by Suzanne. Eight board members voted in favor of the motion, with none opposed.

In addition to the cost of the website update, another \$250 per month will be necessary for maintenance, security and website hosting. Judy made the motion that \$250 per month be added to the budget for website maintenance; Randy seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

### **VIII. New Business / Action Items**

- A. Board Liability Insurance: Cathy reported that HIPS is eligible for insurance to protect the personal assets of board officers and members from legal actions and that the cost will be \$600-\$700 per year. Gary White reported that AIS does have this insurance for their officers but they have never been sued. Tim also mentioned that any potential security breaches on the website might have the potential for lawsuits, but that no financial information is kept on the website.

### **IX. Other**

None

### **X. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Cathy to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Randy. The meeting was adjourned at 10:13 p.m. EDT

Respectfully Submitted by Nina Morris, Secretary