

Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2015

I. Call to Order

The President, Hurley Johnson, called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present: Hurley Johnson, Dean Laumen, Anthony Cutola, Nandita D'Souza, Vern Maddox, Wayne Malone, Clyde Holt, Brian Gurrola, Ron Ahles, and Barbara Adams. Also present was Ray Gonzalez. A quorum was present.

III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of January 7, were read and approved.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Anthony Cutola presented the Treasurer's Report:

Expenses:

Reimburse Barbara Adams - refreshments (Jan)	\$ 53.36
Hermann Park Conservancy - Jan & Feb meeting fee	90.00
Discount Mini Storage - Jan and Feb unit rental	185.00
Lone Star Bonsai Federation - 2015 dues	
88 members at \$3.00 each	<u>264.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 592.36
Transfer funds to secondary club account	\$ <u>500.00</u>
Total Debits	\$ 1,092.36

Deposits:

Membership payments	\$ 475.00
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A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor. Anthony reported that he opened the new account to be used as a clearing account and linked to the Pay Pal account on the website. Eldon Branham will handle the transfers from Pay Pal to the clearing account. Hurley Johnson will also be a signatory on the account.

Hurley Johnson reported that he has let the Hermann Park Conservancy people know that we would like to continue meeting at this site for the rest of the year.

V. Expenditures

Expenses to be paid include \$33.76 to C.J. Everson for refreshments for the meeting, \$18.00 to Philip Drilling for 3 bags of soil for the presentation, and \$145.51 to Alan Raymond as reimbursement for two months rent and fees associated with setting up the new storage unit in north Houston. A motion was made to pay these expenses. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

VI. Unfinished Business

The audit of the Club books has not yet occurred. The committee needs to meet and review the books.

Barbara Adams reported that Alan Raymond has set up and signed the lease on the new north Houston storage unit. The new facility is Unit #96, Building B at Uncle Bob's Self Storage located at 1701 FM 1960 Bypass Rd E., Humble, TX 77338. All that is needed is to move the items to the new location. Discussion ensued and several members agreed to meet on Saturday, January 14th to facilitate the move. Hurley Johnson said he would rent a trailer for approximately \$40.00 to \$50.00 for the day for the process.

Barbara Adams reported that as it was settled that we would meet at the current location for the rest of the year, she asked Linda Black about the possibility of a discount if we paid the next ten months in advance. Linda Black was apologetic, but said "no."

The suggestion was made that the meeting minutes be posted on the website and not published in the newsletter as per the recommendation of the team that analyzed the website. Motion was made that the Board meeting minutes be henceforth published on the website after they have been approved by the Board and that Shawn Nguyen discontinue publishing them in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

VII. LSBF Activities

In that Pete Parker was absent, Hurley Johnson reported that an edition of the LSBF newsletter will be out soon. They are seeking a new newsletter editor and since Shawn Nguyen does such an excellent job publishing ours, they intend to approach her about publishing theirs as well.

LSBF will also be publishing a Bonsai Convention Handbook soon which will contain financial information from the 2014 Convention. Corpus Christi will be hosting a 2016 State Convention.

Plans are being made for a 2015 learning seminar hopefully to be held for 1 1/2 days in September or October. Matt Reel has agreed to be the artist in attendance and will conduct workshops and demonstrations. Content will include bunjin (literati) and display trees and there will be raffles and vendors. The proposed site to date is the Kingwood Community Center.

The touring artist for 2015 will be Owen Reich and the most recent schedule for HBS is tentatively set for July 17th and 18th. The 2016 artist will be Rodney Clemons.

VIII. New Business

Dean Laumen reported that the 2015 Japan Festival is scheduled to be held Saturday, April 18th and Sunday, April 19th. They will be exhibiting in Hermann Park. Discussion followed as to whether the HBS members could set up a display in conjunction with the Festival and if this site could be booked. Dean will contact Linda Black accordingly.

Mention was made that it is the intention of the Board to add a new position on the Board for website designer/updater. An amendment has to be read at a meeting stating this proposal and voted on at the subsequent meeting. Hurley will ask Alan Raymond to draft the amendment to be read at the next meeting.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Barbara Adams.