

Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

June 3, 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, Scott Barboza, Dean Laumen, Anthony Cutola, Nandita D'Souza, Wayne Malone, Brian Gurrola, Ron Ahles and Barbara Adams. Also present were Ray Gonzalez, Donald Green, Quyen Tong, Pete Parker and Ken Credeur. A quorum was present.

III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of May 6, were read and a correction was noted. Under paragraph VIII, LSBF Activities, it was written that the 2015 learning seminar would be held at the Woodlands Community Center. The correction is that it will be held at the Kingwood Community Center. A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Anthony Cutola presented the Treasurer's Report:

Expenses:

Reimbursements:

C.J. Everson - refreshments for May	\$ 47.92
Anthony Cutola - printing HBS material for Japan festival	51.07
Hurley Johnson - unreimbursed expenses for 2013 December banquet	150.00
Scott Barboza - supplies for last meeting's demonstration	<u>54.16</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 303.15

No Deposits:

Outstanding Checks - City of Houston	\$ 257.00
- Scott Barboza	\$ 54.16

Anthony also explained that the balance in the Membership Checking account now includes four \$5.00 maintenance fees charged in error. He has communicated with the bank and they have promised to correct these fees charged in error. To date they have not done so.

A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

V. Expenditures

Expenses to be paid include \$51.77 for refreshments for Barbara Adams for the meeting this evening, \$270.00 to Hermann Park Conservancy for meeting room rental for July through December at \$45.00 per month, \$81.19 to Donald Green for HBS name badges for the new members. It was noted that three more badges are needed: Quyen Tong, Wayne Malone and

Barbara Adams. Also \$816.50 to Hurley Johnson for two demo trees - a large prostrada juniper and a large Brazilian raintree. A motion was made to pay these expenses. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

VI. Unfinished Business

Hurley mentioned that Alan Raymond has asked him to send out reminder letters to those members who paid in 2014 and have not yet paid in 2015. Barbara Adams said she'd send Hurley an updated membership list.

It was recommended and all agreed that an audit should be conducted of paid memberships. Per the audit report presented at the last meeting, there is a discrepancy between 2015 paid membership totals according to the bank records and the amount listed on the current paid up membership list.

Anthony Cutola and Hurley Johnson still need to meet at Wells Fargo Bank to add Hurley as a current signatory on file with our account and both Anthony and Hurley as current signatories on file with the Pay Pal transfer account.

VII. Routine Business

As Eldon Branham was not present for a publicity update, it was mentioned that before any more promotional fliers be printed, they should be updated and corrected. The website is listed incorrectly and one incorrectly states that potential members may pay an extra \$5.00 to have the newsletter mailed to them each month.

Barbara Adams reported that 60 members have paid dues to date. As the current balance reflecting these payments does not reconcile with bank records of paid memberships to date, an audit is to be conducted.

VIII. LSBF Activities

Pete Parker reported that the touring artist for 2015 will be Owen Reich. He will be here Friday evening, July 17th for a lecture demo at the Centennial Garden of the Hermann Park Conservancy where our monthly meetings are held. Cost for room rental will be \$45.00 and needs to be paid in advance to the Conservancy. On Saturday, the 18th, he will conduct workshops at the Tracey Gee Community Center from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m. and from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. This center is located at 3599 Westcenter Dr., Houston (713-266-8193) and is between Beltway 8 East at Richmond and West Park. Pete Parker will pass around a sign-up sheet and Quyen Tong will add a link to the website for signups.

Planning for the 2015 Learning Seminar is just getting underway. It will be held Friday afternoon October 9th and all day Saturday, October 10th. Raffles are planned to include approximately 10 items donated from each club. On Saturday, a large lunch will be planned at which time items will be auctioned and presentations made to the winners of each category of judged trees.

IX. New Business

Brian Gurrola reported that he is coordinating provision of the banner and table covering as discussed at the last meeting. He mentioned that the banner will be 3' x 8' and vinyl and will include grommets for hanging. Approximate cost will be between \$50.00 and \$60.00. At this

cost, Board Members agreed that a vertical banner should also be ordered. As his company subcontracts the table coverings, the cost will run approximately \$200.00 - \$300.00.

Quyen Tong mentioned that the Board members should consider switching the annual auction from September to March. Board members discussed this suggestion, decided it was a good idea and agreed that we could proceed with this September's auction and conduct another one next March.

Quyen Tong also mentioned that the Board members consider trying to renew our old domain name (Houston Bonsai.com) as it is about to expire and that we attempt to transfer it to our new domain. The cost would be nominal, no more than \$10.00 or \$12.00 per year. Board members agreed.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Barbara Adams.