

Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2015

I. Call to Order

The President, Hurley Johnson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

II. Roll Call

Present: Hurley Johnson, Anthony Cutola, Nandita D'Souza, Vern Maddox, Wayne Malone, Clyde Holt, Brian Gurrola, Alan Raymond, Pete Parker and Barbara Adams. Also present were Ray Gonzalez, Ken Credeur and Quyen Tong. A quorum was present.

III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of July 1 were read and approved.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Anthony Cutola presented the Treasurer's Report:

Expenses:

Reimbursements:

Alan Raymond (1992) - storage unit rental January - June 2015	\$ 518.40
Hurley Johnson (1993) - Refreshments for July meeting	65.31
Hurley Johnson (1994) - HBS wire supply	180.00
Hermann Park Conservancy (1995) - room rental for Owen Reich demo	45.00
Debit Card - monthly storage rental fee	99.00
Wells Fargo - online charge for deposit view	3.00
Owen Reich (1996) - Lecture demo fee and 2 workshop fees	<u>850.00</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 1,760.71

Deposits:

One Membership - Freilich	\$ 30.00
Pedro Morales demo tree raffle tickets	<u>331.00</u>
Total Deposits	\$ 361.00
Outstanding Checks - City of Houston	\$ 257.00
Debit Charge pending - storage unit	\$ 99.00

The balance in the Membership Checking account includes maintenance fees charged in error. Mention was made that deposits yet to be recorded include workshops and raffle ticket sales for Owen Reich and Pedro Morales' raffle ticket sales and workshops.

Wayne Malone mentioned that the balance in the account was less than that stated in Anthony's report. The motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report amending the balance in the account. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

V. Expenditures

Expenses to be paid include \$516.84 owed to Pete Parker for Owen Reich's hotel, meals and travel expenses, approximately \$47.00 to C.J. for refreshments for this meeting, and \$162.38 to Hurley Johnson

for the floral arrangement for Donald Green's memorial service. A motion was made to pay these expenditures. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

VI. Unfinished Business

Mention was made that the signature cards are needed for the Wells Fargo Pay Pal account. In that Anthony has served as Treasurer past his term, Wayne Malone volunteered to be Treasurer. Anthony prepared and signed a letter of resignation as Treasurer effective immediately. Motion was made to accept Anthony's letter of resignation as Treasurer, for Wayne Malone to become Treasurer and for Anthony to take over Wayne's position as Member at Large. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

It was decided to leave Anthony's signature on file with Wells Fargo until the end of the year and Wayne, Hurley and Anthony agreed to meet before the next Board meeting to get signature cards on file with the bank.

VII. LSBF Activities

Pete Parker reported that attendance was below par at Owen Reich's lecture/demo and raffle proceeds on his demo tree were minimal. Hurley stated that he felt the reason is that Owen is not that well known. Also the venue - the Tracy Gee Community Center - was hard to find though all agreed it was an excellent facility for this kind of workshop.

The 2015 Learning Seminar will be conducted over 1 1/2 days, October 9th and 10th at the Kingwood Community Center. Matt Reel is the artist. The Seminar will start at 1:00 on Friday. Organizers are looking for help with setup and for items to include in the raffle and trees for the auction. Auction items will begin at \$100.00. Board members decided to donate \$100.00 for an auction item. Motion was made to authorize Pete Parker to spend \$100.00 on a tree for the auction. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

Mention was made that HBS will sponsor an emerging talent individual for this Seminar. Hurley will make the announcement during the general meeting for interested individuals to come forward. HBS will pay the registration fee of \$75.00 for this individual.

VIII. New Business

Alan Raymond presented proposed changes to the HBS Bylaws to add Webmaster as a specific Board position. This will increase the number of Board members to twelve. This position will be elected in odd numbered years. Hurley Johnson will announce this proposal during the general meeting and all members will vote at the next general meeting.

Mention was made that we need to plan a Fall Show if possible in October. Members decided that October 31 would be an appropriate date and the fact that it coincides with Halloween should not be a problem. Alan Raymond said he would check with Mercer Arboretum for availability on that date.

Mention was made that HBS would like to honor Donald Green's legacy in some significant way. Members discussed several possibilities. Motion was made to make Donald Green an honorary member for life and to create a memorial on the website to honor his service to HBS. Motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

IX. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Barbara Adams.