

Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2017

I. Call to Order

The President, Pete Parker, presided and called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm.

II. Roll Call

Members present were Pete Parker Scott Barboza, Hoe Chuah, Ken Cousino, Eldon Branham, Anthony Cutola, Nandita D'Souza, Vern Maddox, Clyde Holt, Sharon Barker, Ray Gonzalez, Brian Gurrola, Hurley Johnson and Barbara Adams. Also present were Terry Dubois and Ken Credeur.

III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of February 1, were presented and read. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes and all voted in favor.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Eldon Branham, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report:

Expenses:

Bee Unique - members name badges	\$ 86.60
Soon Cheah, meeting refreshments	71.41
Uncle Bob's Storage	99.00
Intuit QuickBooks	<u>25.58</u>
Total Expenses	\$ 282.59

Income:

Membership deposits	\$ 590.00
Proceeds - annual club auction	<u>3,209.00</u>
Total Income	\$3,799.00

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

Mention was made that there are membership deposits in the Pay Pal account that no one knows how to access. Ken Cousino said he's sent an email to Quyen Tong to get that information.

It was mentioned that the Intuit QuickBooks charge for \$25.58 is still being charged to the credit card and that Eldon has said he does not need the program. Hurley Johnson volunteered to contact the former Treasurer, Wayne Malone, about discontinuing this monthly fee.

V. Expenditures

Brian Gurrola presented receipts for drinks - \$32.69 and food - \$154.56 for the Club dig. Maria Grissom presented a receipt for \$84.45 for refreshments for the evening. Scott Barboza reported that expenses for tonight's artist, Danny Coffey, were \$386.00 for plane fare, \$300.00 for his presentation, and \$110.00 for his hotel. His meals have not been determined as yet. Mention was made that the annual post office box fee will be due this March. A motion was made to pay these expenses. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

VI. Unfinished Business

The March 4, Saturday study group will meet at 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon at Maas Nursery in Seabrook.

Hoe Chuah reported that he'd been in contact with the organizers of the Japan Festival and that they agreed that if we manned a booth there this year they would provide space - the teahouse - to store the bonsais overnight. This is an absolute must in that last year Dean Laumen's display tree was stolen.

VII. Routine Business

Ken Cousino reported that there were no updates on publicity. Pete Parker mentioned that he is in need of more club brochures. He gave a talk about bonsais at the Cinco Branch Library and will give another talk at the Sugarland Library in May.

VIII. LSBF Activities

Terry Dubois reported that he was out of town for the last LSBF meeting so was not able to attend. The decision was made at that meeting that our Club is to host the 2019 State Convention in conjunction with the American Bonsai Society and the Lone Star Bonsai Federation. Hurley Johnston has agreed to chair the committee organizing that event and Scott Barboza will co-chair. Hurley mentioned that he will have to set up a separate bank account for funding purposes and that an initial deposit of \$10,000.00 would be necessary. A motion was made to fund this account. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor. Pete Parker said LSBF would also be contributing \$1,000.00. Hurley also mentioned that they would be needing a Treasurer.

IX. New Business

Scott Barboza mentioned that he would like to see have a password protected page created on the website so members can post presentations. Anthony Cutola agreed to work on creating one.

Mention was also made that the Board would like to update the Club Bylaws to enable exceptions for the term limits limitation on a case by case basis for certain Board positions. Pete Parker said he would draft the language to be added to the Bylaws to enable the Board to override such a limitation by vote as needed. Such a change would need to be announced at a monthly meeting and then voted on by the members present at the next meeting. Mention was also made that we have no official copy or repository for the Bylaws. Pete Parker said he would like to see an official copy added to the website in a password protected page. Hurley Johnson said that he has a digital version that could be used for this purpose.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Barbara Adams.