

## Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2016

### I. Call to Order

Hurley Johnson, President, called the meeting to order at 6:40 pm.

### II. Roll Call

Members present were Hurley Johnson, Scott Barboza, Dean Laumen, Ken Cousino, Anthony Cutola, Nandita D'Souza, Vern Maddox, Clyde Holt, Ray Gonzalez, Brian Gurrola, Alan Raymond and Barbara Adams. Also present were Pete Parker and Terry Dubois.

### III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the meeting of October 5, were presented and read. A correction was noted that on page two, first paragraph, it was Anthony Cutola and not Ray Gonzalez that manned a booth with Ken Cousino at the Mercer sale. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as amended and all voted in favor.

### IV. Treasurer's Report

As Wayne Malone, Treasurer, has moved to North Carolina and no replacement has been named, there was no treasurer's report submitted.

### V. Expenditures

Scott Barboza noted that the charge for the speaker for the evening, Ryan Bell, will be \$325.00. His plane flight is \$368.55, hotel bill is \$137.99 and dinner for this evening is \$20.40. Receipts from Nandita D'Souza total \$125.83 for the refreshments for the evening. Hurley Johnson reimbursed four people for the convention registrations (Vern Maddox, Ken Credeur, Sharon Barker and Alex Leong) for a total of \$600.00. We had also agreed to pay for one workshop for 5 people already registered. That total was \$780.00 paid to Corpus Christi Bonsai Club. While at the convention, Scott chose a bald cypress from L. Gockley for \$212.50 (at 1/2 price) for a demo tree for next year. Hurley will also provide a tree for the demo at Mercer for approximately \$300.00. A motion was made to approve payment for these expenses. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

### VI. Unfinished Business

Hurley Johnson announced that he's had plaques made for the upcoming Fall Show at Mercer and that he's donating them for the event. They comprise first, second and third place for the categories of novice and more experienced and one plaque for Best of Show. Scott Barboza will talk from 12:00 - 1:00 on "Introduction to Bonsai." It was mentioned that Hurley should announce during the meeting that in order to submit a tree for exhibition or to sign up for a workshop, one must have a paid up membership. There will be eight to ten people per workshop and Dean Laumen is to pass around sign-up sheets during the meeting. The event is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Setup will begin at 8:00 a.m. and awards will be handed out at 3:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Ken Cousino announced that he will host the Study Group this Saturday at his business, Quality Feed.

Mention was made that there were no volunteers to man a booth at the local Farmers Market in Houston held Saturday mornings only. According to Anthony Cutola, it is very hard to get to the place and it only lasts until noon.

### VII. Routine Business

Ken Cousino reported in his publicity update that he has put together a press release concerning the upcoming Mercer event to be sent out Friday to Brenda Beust Smith of the Lazy Gardener, the Houston Cactus and Succulent Society, the Houston Hemerocallis (daylily) Society and the Houston Orchid Society, etc.

#### **VIII. LSBF Activities**

Pete Parker reported that attendance was down at the recently held Corpus Christi convention. And in fact, our Houston group contributed approximately one-third of the attendees and did well as far as the awards went. With a total of only 81 registered attendees, they did in fact break even as far as expenses were concerned in that there was additional revenue from the raffle and auction sales.

He reported that the 2017 State Convention will be held in Dallas, Texas on April 6th through the 9th. Three great artists are scheduled including Bjorn Bjorholm, Daisaku Nomoto and Juan Andrade. As a result, registration numbers are already in the double digits and the Shimpaku workshop has already sold out.

The 2018 State Convention is to be held in Longview, Texas in the spring and is to feature flowering bonsai.

The 2019 State Convention is to be held in Austin, Texas in connection with the opening of the permanent State Bonsai Exhibit. There is the current fear that that exhibit will not be ready in time, however, in that funds must be collected and a building constructed. If this is the case, then the venue for the 2019 Convention remains open.

#### **IX. New Business**

Hurley Johnson reported that the nominating committee has selected candidates for the New Officers for 2017. They are: President - Pete Parker, Second Vice President - Dr. Hoe Chuah, Treasurer - Eldon Branham, Members at Large - Vern Maddox, Clyde Holt and Nandita D'Souza and LSBF Representative - Terry DuBois to alternate with Pete Parker.

Hurley announced that we needed volunteers to provide ham, turkey and plates, cutlery and drinks for the upcoming Christmas party to be held at the next meeting. Hurley Johnson volunteered to bring ham. Everyone is asked to bring a gift for the exchange with a price range of approximately \$25.00.

#### **X. Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded and all agreed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Minutes of the meeting were taken by Barbara Adams.