

Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

June 6, 2018

I. Call to Order

The President, Pete Parker, presided and called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

II. Roll Call

Members present were Pete Parker, Anthony Cutola, Ken Cousino, Eldon Branham, Clyde Holt, Ryan Vollert, Gale Childers, Dr. Hoe Chuah, Brian Gurrola, Nandita D'Souza, Ray Gonzalez and Maria Grissom

III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for May 2, 2018 meeting were presented. A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Eldon Branham read the treasurer's report. A motion was made to accept the expenses. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

V. Expenditures

- Reimbursement to Anthony Cutola for PO Box Rental \$308. Anthony had already paid, so our HBS Check was returned to the PO Box.
- Reimbursement to Ken Cousino for Printing/Advertising Cards. LSBF/ABS 2019 Convention cards/info that was distributed at Brussel's Bonsai Nursery in Olive Branch, MS.
- Board agreed to reimburse Hurley for some of his Expenses for picking up the Convention Trees (Trailer, Gas, Handling, etc....) - \$200
- Reimbursement for Brussel's Bonsai Nursery Invoice.
 - \$1,356.60 – CK # 2139
 - Invoice included Trees for other People...
 - LSBF/ABS Convention Trees (2 Demo, and 10 Workshop Trees)- \$972
 - Vern – \$237 (repaid HBS for his tree at the Meeting)
 - Hurley - \$147.60 (\$200 Expenses - \$147.60 his trees = \$52.40) – CK # 2143
- A motion was made to approve expenses. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

VI. Unfinished Business

2019 Convention planning progress:

- Pete Parker will be the liaison between ABS and the HBS convention board to improve time management.
- Pete shared that St Louis 2018 convention had a profit of \$30,000.00 with 117 full registration participation. At HBS we hope for a successful convention with some profit.
- September 15 is the deadline for HBS to submit our registration materials for the ABS journal scheduled to be published on October 15, 2018

- It was mentioned that Hurley Johnson had posted the 2019 convention list and Scott Barboza is working on the program
- Anthony Cutola presented six (6) commitment letters and checks for 2019 convention for a total of \$ 1,800.00
- Pete reported that HBS will need to work with the State of Texas to correct and update the good standing status of the club that is blocking the opening of a new checking account. It seems we have not filed a franchise report in a few years.
- Additionally, Pete reported that ABS is a 501C(3) (Tax Exempt Status and any donations made to the club may be tax exempt) while HBS is a 501C(5) (even though tax exempt, donations to the club are not tax deductible for the donor) and that we will work towards correcting and changing the title after we are in good standing with the state.

VII. Routine Business

- Clyde Holt will host the June 9th study group at Maas Nursery at 5511 Todville Road in Seabrook , Texas
- Confirmed - Touring artist Tyler Sherrod is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday September 29 & 30 with an all day workshop on Sunday

VIII. LSBF Activities

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IX. New Business

- The conservancy called Pete in regards to the rental arrangement and schedule and the possibility of not honoring the same agreement of every first Wednesday of the month if they find a higher source of income with another group. It seems we might need to look for a new venue as backup plan. In addition they asked that the space be empty 30 minutes early this evening and they offered in return that we would have 30 more minutes for our Christmas party
- Dr. Hoe has concerns regarding the fall show because his contact with memorial city mall left and he has nobody else to call. He will do follow up with the club directly.
- Dr. Hoe was contacted by Kusamono expert Young Choe coming to Austin and would like to have a presentation in Houston on October 28. The club would need to cover hotel and meals only because she is flying out of Houston.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and all voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m. Minutes of the meeting were taken by Maria Grissom.