

# Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2019

## I. Call to Order

The President, Pete Parker, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

## II. Roll Call

Members present were Pete Parker, Eldon Branham, Gale Childers, Dr. Hoe Chuah, Soon Cheah, Ken Cousino, Anthony Cutola, Clyde Holt, Hurley Johnson, Vern, Maddox, and Ryan Vollert.

## III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting were presented by Pete Parker. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hoe Chuah and the motion passed.

Pete Parker notified the Board that the club would need to find a replacement for Maria Grissom as Club Secretary. Ryan Vollert volunteered to step-in as Secretary for the rest of Maria Grissom's term. A motion was made to accept Ryan Vollert as the club's new Secretary by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed.

## IV. Treasurer's Report

Eldon presented the Treasurer's report. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's report by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed.

## V. Expenditures

Ken Cousino presented expenses for reimbursement for refreshments and signage. A motion was made to reimburse Ken Cousino by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed.

## VI. Unfinished Business

- Ken Cousino will host the February 9<sup>th</sup> Saturday study group at Quality Feed & Garden Company at 4428 North Main Street, Houston Texas.
- **2019 Convention Update:**
  - The next Planning Committee meeting for the 2019 Convention is on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.
  - Gale Childers provided the Board an update on the current registration status of the 2019 Convention. The 2019 Convention has 137 early registrants as of February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Pete Parker proposed for the Club to prepare kusamono center pieces for the 2019 Convention at the next HBS meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> following completion of the annual Club auction. Dr. Hoe Chuah and Ken Cousino indicated they can provide soil for the kusamono center pieces. A motion was made by Hurley

Johnson for the club to reimburse up to \$150 in expenses for soil and plants for the kusamono center pieces. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed.

- Hurley Johnson provided the board an update on vendors for the 2019 Convention – 4 vendors have yet to pay as of February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Hurley Johnson provided the Board an update on Club shirts for the 2019 Convention. The initial embroidery setup cost of the Convention logo would be \$35.00 and each shirt would cost \$20.00 (two logos on each shirt).
- Pete Parker notified the Board that The Bonsai Supply (YouTube Channel that will film the 2019 National Exhibition) has indicated they do not want to pay for registration. Pete Parker suggested The Bonsai Supply would be given free access to everything except the workshops if they elect to not pay for registration. Workshop access will be by exception and for short periods only.
- Pete Parker advised club members chairing an area they will need to sign-up volunteers and that they would be given a moment before the start of the February 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to solicit volunteers. Additionally, Pete Parker advised if an area needs signage, the members chairing the respective area will need to have a draft by the next Planning Committee meeting (February 16<sup>th</sup>).
- Ken Cousino asked if exhibit hours during the 2019 Convention could be extended for people who work that Saturday (April 13<sup>th</sup>) and Sunday (April 14<sup>th</sup>). Pete Parker advised that the proposal would be discussed at the next Planning Committee meeting (February 16<sup>th</sup>).
- Alan Raymond volunteered to get and bring the Club bonsai stands to the 2019 Convention. Pete Parker advised they would be needed around noon that Thursday.
- Due to no volunteers, there will be no club dig this year.

## **VII. Routine Business**

- Ken Cousino provided the Board with a publicity update concerning the upcoming 2019 Convention: the 2019 Convention has three sponsors as of February 2019, Ken obtained a letter from the Mayor concerning the 2019 Convention, and Ken obtained a media list from the Mayor's Office so the club can do a media blitz ahead of the 2019 Convention. Ken requested volunteers to contact him after the meeting about participating in the media blitz.

## **VIII. LSBF Activities**

- Hurley Johnson asked for suggestions for the touring artist in 2020. Dr. Hoe Chuah suggested John Wang (California).

## **IX. New Business**

- Pete Parker asked for volunteers to give a bonsai related presentation to the Chappell Hill Garden Club on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. The length of the presentation would be around 45 minutes.

- Pete Parker asked the Board if the Club would want to donate to Paradise, California bonsaiists impacted by recent fires. Ron Anderson (Dirty Locust, Sacramento, California) is collecting non-cash donations (tools, pots, plants, etc.). Pete Parker suggested the club send gift cards from bonsai stores. A motion was made to send \$150 worth of gift cards by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hoe Chuah and the motion passed.
- Pete Parker updated the Board about the Club putting together a commemorative book for the 2019 Convention. The cost of a photography session to have a tree in the book will be \$50. Dr. Hoe Chuah is working on setting up a template for the book. Based on prior communication with ABS regarding the commemorative book, Pete Parker advised the Board that ABS will not help with the cost of the commemorative book. A motion was made for the Club to proceed with the commemorative book by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed.

## **X. Adjournment**

Hurley Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hoe Chuah the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned.