

# Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

June 1, 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, Scott Barboza, Eldon Branham, Gale Childers, Dr. Hoe Chuah, Soon Cheah, Ken Cousino, Anthony Cutola, Clyde Holt, Ray Gonzalez, Hurley Johnson, Vern Maddox, and Ryan Vollert.

## III. Read and Approve Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the May 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were presented by Pete Parker. A motion was made to accept the minutes by Hurley Johnson. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed.

## IV. Treasurer's Report

Eldon Branham presented the Treasurer's report for May. 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

Scott Barboza submitted expenses for a new projector for the Houston Bonsai Society ("HBS") and Ken Cousino submitted expenses for refreshments for the June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. A motion was made to reimburse the expenses by Gale Childers. The motion was seconded by Scott Barboza and the motion passed.

## VI. Unfinished Business

a. Ken Cousino confirmed Quality Feed and Garden will host the June 8<sup>th</sup> Saturday Study Group from 9:00AM – 12 Noon.

b. 2019 Convention:

- **What is needed to the close the books** – Gale Childers is double checking credit card receipts and indicated she should be done by the middle of June, end of June at the latest. The Board inquired when the 2019 Convention seed money would be reimbursed to HBS. Gale Childers stated she preferred to send the seed money separate from HBS's share of the profit from the 2019 Convention. Pete Parker suggested sending the seed money now.
- **Book** – Dr. Hoe Chuah finished the draft of the book and has ordered the printing of the proof copy. Expects to receive the proof copy by June 14<sup>th</sup> and might be able to distribute books at the July 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Dr. Hoe Chuah is exploring the possibility of making the book into an ebook and selling online. Additionally, the American Bonsai Society has inquired about selling the book on their website.

- **Commemorative Clothing** – Hurley Johnson is almost done distributing commemorative clothing. Members can still get the HBS logo and the 2019 Convention Logo embroidered.
  - **Lookback Reports** – Pete Parker has received most of the reports. The outstanding reports are due to still ongoing work for the 2019 Convention (finalizing finances, the commemorative book, etc.) and will be completed once that work concludes.
  - **Converting Convention Visitors to HBS Members** – Pete Parker will get a list of convention visitors from Gale Childers. The Board decided to go with Scott Barboza’s previous suggestion for HBS to reimburse new members with a \$30.00 (cost of HBS membership) rebate for a bonsai class.
- c. **Mentoring Program** – Eight club members applied to be mentors. The Mentoring Program will be initially limited to two mentees per mentor (initial cap of 16 mentees) in order to keep the program small initially. Additional mentees can be added as the program grows. Pete Parker will announce the Mentoring Program at the June 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting and will provide mentee applications.

## VII. LSBF Activities

- b. Hurley Johnson suggested HBS host a workshop with the 2019 Lone Star Bonsai Federation (“LSBF”) touring artist Andrew Robson at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center (HBS can you use the scheduled rented space through 4:00 PM). Hurley Johnson also suggested Timeless Trees or Quality Feed and Garden could host Sunday workshops (September 8<sup>th</sup>) with Andrew Robson.
- c. Pete Parker informed the Board that LSBF has instituted a policy against people removing exhibition trees early from a convention. An individual had done this for two years in a row and has been banned for three years from submitting a tree into a LSBF convention exhibition.

## IX. New Business

- a. **Succession Planning** – Scott Barboza’s term as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President is expiring at the end of this year, while Dr. Hoe Chuah’s term as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and Pete’s term as president expire at the end of 2020. Senior board members discussed succession plans for these positions. Pending confirmation through the normal election process, Janny van Beem will succeed Scott Barboza at the end of his term and Ryan Vollert will shadow Dr. Hoe Chuah on setting up/organizing HBS’s fall show.
- b. **Help Group for Clyde** – HBS is organizing a date for members to visit Clyde Holt and help with maintaining his personal collection.
- c. **Interest in Moving Meetings back to Wednesday Night** – A member had presented Pete Parker with a meeting location that would allow HBS to go back to meeting on Wednesday (versus Saturday). The Board discussed the option but there was little enthusiasm to revert back to meeting on Wednesdays (a noted positive for meeting on Saturday was increased attendance/higher member account).

## X. Adjournment

Hurley Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Gale Childers and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned.