

Houston Bonsai Society Board Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2020 - Zoom Conference

I. Call to Order

The President, Pete Parker, called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM.

II. Roll Call

Members present for the Zoom conference call were Pete Parker, Janny Van Beem, Ellis Montes, Anthony Cutola, Nandita D'Souza, Hurley Johnson, Eldon Branham, James Fuller, Ken Cousino, Scott Barboza, Shawn Nguyen, Ted, and Chris Lannen.

III. Approve Meeting Minutes

Motion to accept September's minutes was made by Anthony Cutola and seconded by Nandita D'Souza. Motion passed.

IV. Treasurer's Report

Eldon verbally reviewed the report. Notable points are listed below. \$60 income from membership dues. A check was given to T. Mendenhall Community Center for holding the room for 2021, the previous check to hold the room for 2020 was not returned as they were at limited staff due to Covid. Expenses included a cleared check of \$350 to Bill Valonois, \$159 renewal for the POBox as previously discussed. \$250 for Jim Doyle, and \$101 for the storage unit. Current membership is at 121 members, up 8 members from September. Motion to accept report made by Anthony Cutola and seconded by Ken Cousino. Motion passed.

V. Expenditures

Expenses included \$236 for tables and chairs for the auction from Ken. The Board agreed to pay \$239.88 to Shawn Nguyen for the subscription for Adobe Photoshop from April 2020 to March 2021. Board will ask Shawn for a commitment to continue creating the newsletter thru this time as she does a wonderful job! Motion to pay expenses made by Scott Barboza and seconded by Ken Cousino and Janny Van Beem.

VI. Upcoming and Unfinished Business

a. Forward Plans—

- November: Janny has schedule Byron Myrick to discuss bonsai pots.
- December: meeting will be the Christmas party. Possible venues include Mercer Arboretum, the new Botanic Gardens. Janny will reach out to get details. Board agreed to move time to 1 to 3pm. Considering items under consideration are: having a demo, various gift exchange options [drawing names from hat, white elephant], catering lunch [box meals, Jason Deli lunches, or similar], and possible requesting an RSVP to manage lunch count.

- January: considering moving the meeting to the 9th due to holidays. Janny is considering a Yamadori lecture.
- Hurley agreed to hold the Saturday Study Group for Nov and Dec.

b. Auction Recap:

- Total Income was ~\$3600 with ~\$2830 in CC and other payments, \$780 in cash.
- Need to reach out to two new members as their paperwork was misplaced: Toby Hamilton and Travis Fegala
- No major improvements were recommended, Board seemed pleased with how the auction went

c. Virtual Fall show [Nandita]

- Only had 14 entries from 5 people, agreed to extend the deadline to the end of the week
- Considered giving feedback to the participants from the judging.

d. Nominating Committee Results

- President: Anthony Cutola [2 yr term]
- 2nd Vice President: Nandita D'Souza [2 yr term]
- Treasurer- Gale Childers
- Members At-Large: Scott Barboza, Luis Teran, Paul Henderson

VII. LSBF Activities – No Change

- a. Convention update: 2021 Austin, 2022 SanAntonio, 2023 Dallas
- b. We will consider applying to host the 2024 convention early next year. Corpus and Louisiana also are considering hosting the 2024 convention.

VIII. New Business

- a. Request made to the Board to consider how we may be able to use the funds to benefit the members.

IX. Adjournment

Pete Parker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 am.