

AIS Region 14
Fall Regional October 3, 2020
Online via Zoom

Minutes of the Budget Meeting

Jane Jordan, Secretary

Regional Vice President, Jean Richter, called the Budget Meeting to order at 10:11 AM.

Outgoing **Treasurer, Helen Franklin**, reported that the Region has \$29,726.06 on hand as of October 1st. Expenses were \$865.94 and Revenues were \$6,241.86. The Summer Fundraiser, selling the iris from the Dry Creek Garden, brought in \$5,400 from Clubs and individuals. There are some out of region sales that have not yet been paid. There are more rhizomes available. Jean will update the list of what is left and distribute it to the club presidents. It was noted that the deficit incurred from the 2019 AIS National Convention was \$16,000 and that the National AIS gave us \$2,100 for Audio/Visual Expenses. John Pesek moved that the report be accepted. Lynn Williams seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

New **Treasurer, Bonnie Petheram**, presented the budget for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 by sharing the screen to Zoom. It was noted that some funds allocated in the 2019-2020 budget were not spent, in particular the RVP's budget and the Science budget. These items are required to be listed in the budget, but will not be spent in this year either. Several adjustments were made, notably an increase in the scholarship fund to account for the \$500 donation from Sacramento IS and the Youth budget was decreased from \$1,700 to \$500, because there are only 27 youth members. With the schools closed there is no way to contact the students. We will be exploring ways to increase our income. Patricia Eisenberg volunteered to look into finding grants for 501c3 organizations for special projects, such as youth programs. The Final Budget shows \$8,795 in expenses and \$6,100 in Revenues with a deficit of \$2,695. However, with the allotted expenses that will not be spent, the budget is close to being balanced.

Riley Probst moved that the Budget be accepted. John Pesek seconded the motion. The Motion passed. The Budget meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Minutes of the Business Meeting

Jane Jordan, Secretary

RVP, Jean Richter, called the Business Meeting to order at 11:01 AM.

A moment of silence was held for Gordon Nicholson who passed away on August 10, 2020. Gordon, along with his wife Lorraine, worked tirelessly on behalf of Region 14 for many years. Kathy Braaten moved that the Region donate \$200 to AIS in memory of Gordon. Phyllis Wilburn seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Carol Cullen moved that the minutes from the 2020 Spring Regional Business Meeting be accepted. John Pesek seconded. The motion was passed.

Judges Training Chair, Carol Cullen, reported that the Region had 12 shows in 2018, 11 shows in 2019, and no shows in 2020. Three apprentices moved up to G/E judges: Craig Tarr, Sandra Saelens, and Norma Jean Paul. The Training Reports will go out next week.

In order to provide Garden Training for judges and especially for students and apprentices, the Region is proposing that judges organize 2 garden trainings be scheduled on the same day, morning 10-11:30 AM and afternoon 1:30-3:00 PM so that no overnight stay is required. It would reduce the cost and small groups would be able to social distance. Also, there needs to be an Awards and Ballots Training because 2 apprentices need this to move up. The Star Award for the most Judges Training hours taken by a judge was awarded to Anna Cadd.

Secretary, Jane Jordan, reported that there was no board activity since the Spring Regional.

The **Treasurer's Report** was presented at the Budget Meeting.

Bulletin Editor, Stephanie Jennings, thanked the contributors to the August Bulletin. The deadline for the Spring Bulletin is February 1st. That issue will contain a remembrance for Gordon Nicholson. Please send photos and personal stories to be included.

Central Director, Craig Tarr, reported that Monterey Bay Iris Society, Clara B. Rees Iris Society, and Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society have been meeting via Zoom. Mount Diablo Iris Society has not been meeting.

Southern Director, Linda Hood, was not present, but sent a report. Many events were cancelled. But iris have been potted for a Spring Sale.

Northern Director, Cindy Eastman, was not present and sent no report. Representatives from the various clubs gave brief reports on outdoor meetings, iris sales, and online auctions.

Past RVP, Phyllis Wilburn, will Chair of the Nominating Committee for the next Regional Vice President and Assistant RVP/Judges Training Chair. The committee is comprised of the 3 Directors, a Club President, a Judge, and one other person.

Honorary Awards Chair, Pat Eisenberg, thanked her committee members. She is preparing a list of previous winners of the Larry Gaulter Award for Service to Region 14. This year's recipient is Phyllis Wilburn for her 9 years of service to the region as Secretary, Judges Training Chair, and Regional Vice President. Phyllis thanked her mentors and encouraged everyone to volunteer for the Region and to promote iris.

Fundraising Co-Chairs, Marilyn Kaplan and Patricia Eisenberg, reported that the only fundraising was the sale of the Dry Creek Gardens. There 50 volunteers who helped dig and label the iris. Patricia will be researching grants that may be available for public gardens and youth programs. They are also exploring online sales and auctions. Please donate iris related memorabilia to the Region. There are several items to be auctioned off today. That will happen after the afternoon Judges Training.

Historian, Jean Richter, reported that Philippa Alvis, donated a box of historic memorabilia. Bryce Williamson is working on digitizing the Region Scrapbook.

Internet/Electronic Services Chair, Ann Pike, was not present but sent a report that there are no changes to the website.

Membership Chair, Mary Ann Horton, sent a report. The number of youth reported was corrected by

Carolyn Hoover, the total membership 372 with 27 youth members. Pam Messer is taking over the National Membership Chair from Tom Gormley. Mary Ann would also like to retire as Region Membership Chair.

Scholarship Chair, Lee Dickey, was not Present. Jean will follow up with him.

Science Chair, Riley Probst, is working on several articles.

Trophies and Awards Chair, Bill Fink, reported that there were no awards since there were no garden visits in the Spring.

Youth Chair, Carolyn Hoover, reported that there are 27 youths. She will clarify the list with Pam Messer. Many youths were removed since there was no way to contact them while schools are closed. Two third-graders in the Youth Program won 2nd and 3rd place awards in the essay contest. Howie Dash donated 50 iris to the program.

Old Business

The 2021 Spring Regional is planned for May 8 at Bluebird Haven Iris Garden near Placerville. At this time, it is not clear whether it will be an in person event. However, the garden will be open for small groups over several weekends. All are encouraged to visit the garden and vote on the guest iris. There will be a sign up for time slots so there won't be too many people at once. Bruce Filardi will be the guest speaker possibly via Zoom.

The 2021 National Convention is on hold at the moment. A decision will be made in November.

The Spring 2022 Regional will be hosted by Sydney B. Mitchell and Mount Diablo Iris Societies at the Dry Creek Garden. Jeff Bennett reported that guest iris are arriving. The iris are going into pots at the moment waiting for the beds to be prepared. There will 150-170 guest iris. Jeff specified that hybridizers may only send 10 seedlings.

The 2021 Fall Regional will be hosted by Clara B. Rees Iris Society at the Gamble Gardens in Palo Alto.

A host is needed for the 2023 Spring Regional. The guest iris need to be planted next year.

Riley Probst reported the top ten results of the Tall Bearded Symposium for Region 14. That's All Folks (31 votes), Absolute Treasure (21), Gypsy Lord (21), Haunted Heart (19), Autumn Explosion (18), Lady Friend (18), Bottle Rocket (16), Dusky Challenger (16). Several Regions have not reported their votes yet for the national symposium.

New Business

Bonnie Petheram nominated Jeff Bennett for the 3-year term as the Central Director. There were no other nominations. John Pesek moved that the nominations be closed. Lynn Williams seconded the motion. A vote was taken and Jeff was elected.

Jean Richter appointed Shirley Trio-Probst as the new Membership Chair. The Board approved the appointment with a voice vote.

The nominating committee for the next Regional Vice President and Assistant RVP was selected. It includes Phyllis Wilburn, Chair, the 3 directors –Linda Hood, Cindy Eastman, and Jeff Bennett, plus Anna Cadd as a judge, Sandra Saelens as a Club President, and Mikey Lango as another person. John Pesek moved that the committee be approved. Lynn Williams seconded it. The motion passed.

Jeff Davis, president of Santa Rosa Iris Society, asked how other clubs were managing with Zoom meetings. Several clubs have slide show presentations that can be shared with other clubs. Jean Richter will make a list of available programs and explore sharing with other regions

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 PM.