

**AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA**

MAY 29-30, 2011

FULL MINUTES

President Judy Keisling called the Spring Meeting of The American Iris Society Board of Directors to order at 1:02 PM on Sunday, May 29, 2011, and announced a quorum was present. President Keisling asked Board Members, Committee Chairs, RVPs, and guest to introduce themselves.

Present during the various sessions were: **Officers:** President, Judy Keisling; 1st Vice President and Treasurer, Jill Bonino; 2nd Vice President, Jim Morris; General Secretary, Michelle Snyder. **Administrative Officers:** Recording Secretary, Susan Boyce; Publication Sales, John and Kay Ludi; Editor Kelly Norris. **Directors:** Ruth Barker, Susan Boyce, Cheryl Deaton, Susan Grigg, John Jones, John Ludi, Jody Nolin, Gary White, and Lynn Williams. **RVP Representative:** Alan Brooks. **Immediate Past President:** Jeanne Clay Plank. **Committee Chairs:** Paul Gossett, Bob Plank, and Gerry Snyder. **RVPs:** Donna Lowry (2), Ron Killingsworth (10), and Gordon Carver (17). **Guest:** Sandy Ives, Maureen Mark (2), Harold Griffie (3), Glenn Grigg, Frances Thrash (4), Bob Hollingworth, Dorothy Willott (6), Ted Baker, Will Plotner, Lorena Reid, Howard & Val Smith (13), Joseph Bonino, Andy Rivarola, Winona Stevenson (15), Jim Landers (17), Jean Morris (18), and Linda Rader (21).

President Keisling welcomed all and encouraged all present to participate in discussions, with the reminder that only Board members may vote.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:

Portland, Oregon-November 5-6, 2010.

No additions or corrections were made to the full minutes as posted on the AIS Website.

*Snyder moved and Deaton seconded:

That the minutes be accepted as presented on the AIS website. **Motion carried.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

President - Judy Keisling asked the appointment of John Jones as Motion Secretary.

*Deaton moved and Williams seconded:

That John Jones be appointed Motion Secretary. **Motion carried.

President Keisling presented the following in her report:

1. The new Basic Iris Culture booklets, 2,5000 copies have been printed.
2. Bob Keup has suggested that The AIS Board of Directors look at changing the advertising rates. Keisling also stated that Keup will not continue in this position after the October 2011 issue.
3. The AIS Foundation President, Bob Hollingworth has requested a joint meeting with the AIS Foundation and The AIS Board of Directors. President Keisling stated that this

meeting will take place on Monday evening.

4. As per the motion, that was passed concerning the formation of a committee to propose guidelines for registration images, President Keisling announced the committee appointed to address this motion will be chaired by Cheryl Deaton. Committee members are: John Jones, Janet Smith, Bob Pries, Paul Black, Jim Morris, and Heather Pryor.

In accordance with standard practice, Keisling asked for affirmation of interim Board actions taken by email vote since the November 2010 Board Meeting.

****That the Board approve George Boyce, as the RVP for Region 3. Motion carried.**

****That The AIS Board of Directors confirm the appointment of Cheryl Deaton as RVP Counselor as appointed by President Judy Keisling. Motion carried.**

****That Susan Boyce be elected to the board to fill the vacancy left by the death of Rita Gormley. Motion carried.**

****That the AIS Board accept the RVP Handbook Revision, October, 2010. Motion carried.**

****A).** The AIS Registrar shall begin requesting volunteer image submission with registrations. Images shall be accepted by the Registrar, archived in the AIS Library, and displayed on the Iris Encyclopedia. Submission of images to the AIS constitutes permission for any and all AIS uses.

B). The AIS President shall appoint a registration committee to facilitate implementation of registration image collection, archiving, and disposition. This committee shall propose suggested guidelines for registration images by August 1, 2011. **Motion carried by a vote of 9-7.**

*The following motion to amend the AIS by-laws was sent out in the January 2011 bulletin and a ballot was included requesting their vote be sent to the AIS Secretary by April 1, 2011.

****"(f) Electronic membership shall be the same as other forms of memberships with the exception that an e-member shall not receive the bulletin in a printed form but shall have access to it electronically. This e-membership may also include other electronic services which are unique to it. Members may choose to have both e-membership and another form of membership to receive both printed and electronic services. Holding two types of membership shall not duplicate voting privileges. E-members shall also receive the new member's packet and other information electronically. Electronic-membership shall be renewable annually"**

The total number of votes received was 578. Two-thirds of the total votes received is 385. A total of 498 YES votes were received versus 80 NO votes. As such, amendment to the AIS by-laws was adopted.

*President Judy Keisling has appointed John Jones as the new Registrations Chair. **Motion carried.**

*Jones moved and Morris seconded:

****That we approve the interim board actions. Motion carried.**

1st Vice President - Jill Bonino deferred her report until later.

2nd Vice President - Jim Morris reported on his experience, as the AIS representative to the International Iris competition in Florence, Italy for 2011. The Primo Firenze (Gold Florin) was awarded to 'Silk Road' by Keith Keppel.

General Secretary - Michelle Snyder reported that Bob Hollingworth, President of the AIS Foundation, wanted to be added to the AIS Discussion group.

*Plank moved and Williams seconded:

That the President of the AIS Foundation be added to AISDiscuss. **Motion carried.

Snyder also reported that an affiliate in Australia wants the AIS to offer a free AIS membership to the winner of the affiliate's iris show. After a discussion:

*Deaton moved and Barker seconded:

That we decline the request by Inland Region Iris Society Inc (Australia) to provide a prize of a year's subscription to the AIS Bulletin. That instead we offer a one year subscription to the AIS e-membership. **Motion carried by a vote of 8-7.

After a very lengthy discussion another motion was proposed:

*Snyder moved and Williams seconded:

That Motion 5 be amended such that it reads "a one year individual subscription for the winner of the designated class be a one-time only offer". **Motion carried.

Treasurer - Jill Bonino reported on the financial, seven month status of the AIS. Bonino also reported on the progress of purchasing online, items from the AIS Storefront using PayPal.

Editor - Kelly Norris will give his report later in the meeting.

Advertising Editor - Bob Keup was not in attendance, but his report stated a small drop in ads for the shopping section, but the display ads are running about the same as in the past. Keup has been discussing a reciprocal agreement in regards to trading ads with the American Hemerocallis Society.

*Jones moved and Deaton seconded:

That the AIS enter into a reciprocal agreement with the American Hemerocallis Society to have a half page ad for each society's published bulletin once a year and that the Advertising Editor be authorized to increase the ad to a full page if acceptable to the American Hemerocallis Society. **Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORTS:

Membership Secretary - Tom Gormley was not in attendance. Bonino noted that the income from memberships is ahead of budget, but membership decline is still expected.

Registrar/Recorder - Mike and Anne Lowe were not in attendance. President Keisling noted that John Jones will become the new AIS Registrar, and the changeover is expected in July. A discussion followed about all hybridizers, both domestic and foreign pay the same amount when registering irises. Currently the overseas foreign

hybridizers pay nothing.

*Jones moved and Snyder seconded:

That foreign registrants pay AIS the same registration fee as US and Canadian Registrants pay. Fee to be paid in USD, effective August 1, 2011. **Motion carried. Also noted was the problem that the Lowe's have encountered each year, of receiving a large amount of iris registrations at the end of the registration year and thus creating a large problem in processing the registrations in a timely manner. This also creates a problem of publishing the yearly checklist in a timely manner.

*Jones moved and Snyder seconded:

That iris registrations must be received by the AIS Registrar prior to November first of each registration year and any registrations received after that date will be held until December first and be registered in the following registration year. **Motion carried.

Recording Secretary - Susan Boyce had no report.

RVP Representative - Alan Brooks gave no report.

The meeting recessed for a break at 2:52 pm and reconvened at 3:15 pm.

Publication/Sales - John Ludi reported on the calendar inventory. For the 2011 year 2,000 calendars were printed and there are still 1,121 left. It was recommended to place a smaller order for the 2012 calendars.

*Jones moved and Plank seconded:

That we print no more than 1,000 copies of the 2012 AIS Calendar. **Motion carried.

Ludi stated that three customers purchase large quantities of the BIC's, and then resell them out of their gardens. When notified of the new increased price of \$5.00 for each booklet these customers stated that they could not purchase them at this new higher price. After a lengthy discussion:

*Ludi Moved and Williams seconded:

** That the single copy price of the color version of the Basic Iris Culture be \$5.00 plus \$2.00 shipping (Canada shipping \$3.00, international \$5.00) and the price for a packet of twenty five copies be \$75.00 plus \$5.00 US shipping (Canada shipping \$29.00, international \$48.00). AIS member discount price: single copy \$3.00, packet of twenty five copies \$60.00 (standard shipping as above applies). **Motion carried.**

Ludi noted that the price of charging for the ITJ's after the first 100 free ones, have caused a lot of confusion.

*Jones moved and Snyder seconded:

That for AIS Affiliates the first 100 ITJs per year are free and that packets of 25 are \$4.00 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling and packets of 100 at \$15.00 plus shipping and handling. **Motion carried.

Ludi noted that the RVP Handbook and the Convention Handbook are available on the AIS Website for downloading.

*Jones moved and Morris seconded:

**That we produce the 2009 ten-year Check List using Print on Demand and that

the price of the soft-cover be \$18.00 plus shipping and handling and the hard cover be \$27.00 plus shipping and handling. **Motion carried.**

Another lengthy discussion followed about the shipping costs, involving the two motions passed concerning the Basic Iris Culture's and the ITJ's.

*Ludi moved and

That the AIS Storefront be authorized to set the shipping at cost plus \$2.00 handling fee, total to be rounded up to the next dollar on all items ordered from the storefront. **Motion carried.

Meeting recessed for dinner break at 5:00 pm.

The meeting reconvened back at 7:02 pm.

Unfinished Business - none

Reports of Special Committees - none

New Business - Bonino reported that in talks with Hugh Stout, President of the Tall Bearded Iris Society, the Tall Bearded Iris Society would like to become a Cooperating Society of the AIS.

*Bonino moved and Deaton seconded:

That the Tall Bearded Iris Society be allowed to become a Cooperating Society of the AIS. **Motion carried by a vote of 12-2.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Affiliations - Chair Susan Boyce reported that there are currently 170 affiliates. Also reported that there have been several people who have expressed a concern over the affiliations process. Several thoughts were discussed about this.

*Morris moved and Deaton seconded:

That we charge all clubs \$25.00 per year for Affiliation beginning with the 2012 Affiliation year excepting first year affiliations. **Motion carried.

Boyce also noted that several RVP's have expressed concern about the affiliation year starting on May 1st, and many of the affiliates starting to have elections and change of officers in June, thus the information becomes quickly outdated.

*Boyce moved and Snyder seconded:

**That the Affiliation year run from January first thru December thirty-first.

Motion carried.

Affiliation Liaison - Chair Jody Nolin reported that things have slowed down on the Affiliates email group list. Nolin noted that this email group is just a way to voice information from the board to the affiliates and vice a versa. This by no ways undercuts the RVP's responsibilities.

Awards - Chair Ruth Barker reported that the ballot is online for voting.

Calendars - Chair Terry Aitken was not in attendance and did not send in a report.

Convention Liaison - Chair Paul Gossett reported that he has received an invitation to host the 2012 Fall Board meeting.

*Ludi moved and Morris seconded:

That Columbus Iris Society in Columbus, Ohio host the 2012 Fall Board meeting. **Motion carried.

Gossett also reported he is also working on a site to host the 2014 convention.

Donations - Chair Lynn Williams reported that donations are down from last year.

Electronic Services - Chair John Jones reported on the progress of starting the e-membership on the AIS website. Also reported was the progress of scanning the older AIS Bulletins to be put in the website.

*Jones moved and Williams seconded:

That we approve online publishing as part of e-memberships the most recent four Bulletins and the next for issues using Brown Publishing at the cost of \$3.00 per page. **Motion carried.

Jones also noted the technology needed to do this conversion to post the AIS bulletin archives online.

*Jones moved and Plank seconded:

That we authorize the Electronic Services Chair to draft a grant proposal to the AIS Foundation for President Keisling's signature to fund the use of the Blue Toad technology to place the AIS bulletin archive pdfs online as part of the AIS e-membership and for scholarly and/or academic research. **Motion carried.

The meeting recessed for a break at 9:08 pm and reconvened at 9:21 pm.

Exhibitions - Supply clerk Susan Boyce reported on the problem of receiving a large amount of exhibition supply orders that are needed for iris shows in a very short amount of time, usually less than two weeks, most of them in less than a one week time span before a show. After a board discussion:

*Boyce moved and Morris seconded:

If an Affiliate request a rush order of exhibition supplies within two weeks or less of the date, a \$25.00 "rush order" fee will be charged. **Motion carried.

Morris stated that he would like to see the Best of Show winners reinstated in the AIS Bulletin.

*Morris moved and Jones seconded:

That we print a listing of Best of Show winners (iris, affiliate, and exhibitor) of the AIS shows in the IRISES - The Bulletin of the American Iris Society. **Motion carried.

Immediate Past President - Chair Jeanne Clay Plank reported on the operations handbook and it will be sent out to the board members who do not have one yet.

Insurance - Chair Michelle Snyder reported on the easier, new methods of obtaining certificates of insurance via the internet.

Iris Programs Resources (Speakers) - Chair Dana Brown was not in attendance.

Iris Programs Resources (Slides & Digital) - Chair Janet Smith was not in attendance.

Judges - Chair Judy Keisling reported a loss of fifty four judges over this last year.

Judges Handbook Revision Committee - Chair Jim Morris reported that the judges handbook has now been OCR scanned. Morris noted that if anyone has suggestions on changes that should be made to the Judges Handbook, to please send them in writing to him.

Library - Chair Tracy Plotner was not in attendance, but her report indicated that the library is running out of storage space.

Tax Exemption Advisor - Chair Bob Plank had no report.

Photo Contest - Chair Janet Smith was not in attendance.

Publications - Chair Jody Nolin reported exploring putting the AIS checklist onto CD's, so people would have better access to iris information at the iris shows. Nolin also reported on a possible book to celebrate the AIS' 100th anniversary in 2020. President Keisling suggested an article in the bulletin to find volunteers to assist with the AIS' 100th anniversary.

Scientific Advisory Committee- Chair Kelly Norris had no report.

Silent Auction - Co-chairs Strauss and Stewart were not in attendance and did not send in a report.

Symposium - Chair Gerry Snyder reported that the data for the 2011 symposium ballot had been put on the AIS Website early this spring.

Youth - Chair Cheryl Deaton reported that the youth numbers are staying fairly steady at just under 200. Also concerning posting youth information on the internet, there was a continued discussion from the 2010 Fall Board meeting about the Youth Protection Policy. Deaton announced the winner of the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award, Alex Harding, Region 17, will not be in attendance to accept his award. Deaton also announced the winners of the Ackerman Essay contest. They are: Chelsea Curlee, Region 17 (12 and under age group) and Jarrett Raulerson, Region 5 (13 and up age group).

Foundation Liaison - Chair Gary White reported on the five projects that are currently being funded. More will be discussed on Monday evening concerning the tax status of the AIS Foundation.

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 pm, and the Board went into Executive session.

Monday, May 30, 2011 - The meeting reconvened at 8:38 pm.

Editor - Kelly Norris reported on damage that some of the bulletins arrived with, due to not being covered with the plastic covers.

*Boyce moved and Nolin seconded:

That we authorize the use of plastic covers to mail the AIS Bulletin. **Motion failed.

Public Relations - Co-chair Susan Grigg introduced Andy Rivarola. Andy is in charge of the AIS Facebook page and he talked about reaching out to potential members via facebook and twitter.

Foundation - Bob Hollingworth reported on the possibility of the foundation receiving all of the AIS Donations and then sending the money back to the AIS which would benefit the foundation in meeting the tax requirements. A lengthy discussion followed.

*Nolin moved and Plank seconded:

That the AIS promote the AIS Foundation as the recipient of all donations intended for the AIS. That the implementation is to be refined with the appropriate input from legal and tax authorities and with consideration of the internal processes of both the AIS and the AIS Foundation. **Motion carried.

Another discussion followed about the AIS Foundation becoming the only group responsible for iris scientific research.

*Snyder moved and Boyce seconded:

That the AIS Foundation shall be the sole supporting group for iris research activities, and that the AIS Scientific Advisory Committee shall handle scientific reviews. **Motion carried.

Another discussion followed about the AIS and the AIS Foundation working together in pursuit of finding a new AIS Library site.

*Snyder moved and Jones seconded:

That the AIS Foundation and the AIS shall form a joint advisory committee for the support and development of AIS Library activities and the development of sources for AIS Library funding. **Motion carried.

The meeting recessed for a break at 10:11 pm and reconvened at 10:25 pm.

Report of the Nominating Committee - Chair Hal Griffie presented the slate of nominees for consideration as candidates for the four director positions on The American Iris Society Board of Directors: Hal Griffie (3), Anita Moran (4), Bob Pries (4), Steve Poole (9), Susan Boyce (12), Cheryl Deaton (15), Andy Rivarola (15), and Ron Cosner (21).

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm for Executive session.

The Board of Directors went into executive session from 10:28 pm until 11:00 pm, with the regular session called back to order at 11:07 pm. Director nominees selected for the three year terms which will expire in 2014 are: Susan Boyce, Cheryl Deaton, Hal Griffie, and Andy Rivarola.

RVP Counselor - Chair Cheryl Deaton reported on the RVP meeting. There were a lot of new RVP's in attendance. Deaton announced the results from the Board of Counselors meeting. The new RVP Board Representative for 2011-2012 is Hugh Stout (Region 22). The Nominating Committee Representatives are Donna Lowry (Region 2) and Gordon Carver (Region 17).

Section and Cooperating Society Liaison - Chair Jim Morris reported that at the meeting, the nomenclature standards, the AIS website, and the wiki were all discussed. Morris announced that Jean Morris, President of the Median Iris Society, will be the section representative to the AIS Nominating committee.

Nominating Committee Appointments - President Keisling announced the appointment of Ruth Barker and Gary White as Board representatives to the 2012 AIS Nominating Committee. Barker and White will join Gordon Carver (RVP), Donna Lowry (RVP), and Jean Morris (Sections) as members of this committee.

Public Relations addendum - Co-chair Susan Grigg reported that the Public Relations committee needs permission to draft a letter to be able to have irises planted at the White House in the flower garden area. The Board determined that no motion was required for this to take place, and the Public Relations committee will draft a letter for President Keisling's signature.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Fall Board Meeting will be held November 4-5, 2011 at the Embassy Suites-Airport in Atlanta, Georgia. 2011 Fall Meeting Chair, Carolyn Hawkins may be reached at carolyn9999@comcast.net or (770) 855-4248.

The Spring 2012 AIS Board Meeting and Convention will be held Monday, April 16-21, 2012 in Ontario, California.

President Keisling expressed thanks to Ted Baker and the British Columbia Iris Society for hosting this wonderful convention.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 pm.
Respectfully submitted,
Susan Boyce