

Minutes of the AIS Board of Directors Videoconference, Wednesday, August 26, 2020

Present:

Jody Nolin (6) - President, Affiliate Chair

Andi Rivarola (15) - 1st VP, Convention Liaison (temporary), Public Relations Social Media,
Public Relations 2020 Convention, Strategic Planning

Bonnie Jean Nichols (17) – 2nd VP – Judges, RVP 17

Michelle Snyder (15) – Secretary, Insurance

Jill Bonino (15) – Treasurer, Foundation Liaison

Gary White (21) - Immediate Past President, Honorary Awards, Finance

John Jones (14) - Registrar/Recorder

Claire Schneider (15) – Director, Recording Secretary

Gerry Snyder (15) – Director, Awards

Howie Dash (23) – Director, RVP Counselor

Janis Shackelford (15) – Director, Policy

John Ludi (13) – Director, Publication Sales Director

Lorene Crone (7) – Director, Asst. Electronic Services

Neil Houghton (2) - Director, Image Coordinator, Iris Program Resources Digital

Phyllis Wilburn (14) – Director, Section & Cooperating Society Liaison

Susan Driver (7) – Director, Calendars

Wayne Messer (21) - Director, Exhibition Show Reports, News & Notes, RVP 21

Jim Morris (18) - Centennial Publication, Obituary Editor

Lois Rose (4) - Exhibition Schedules

Nick Stewart (22) - Exhibition Supplies

Riley Probst (14) - Symposium

Jean Richter (14) - RVP 14, RVP Representative

Scarlett Ayres (23) - AIS 2021 Convention Co-Chair

Mike Reed (17) - asst RVP 17

Mary Ann Campbell (18)

Elladan McLeester (8) - RVP 8

Christine Dickinson (14)

Kevin Vaughn (13)

The meeting was called to order on Zoom at 5:02 PM PDT.

A quorum was present.

1. Approve the minutes from the previous meeting – Claire Schneider

Motion 1: to accept the minutes of the July 22, 2020, teleconference with corrections. Motion by Bonnie Nichols and seconded by Michelle Snyder. Passed unanimously.

There was a discussion about the quantity of discussion reported in the minutes.

AIS SPRING REPORTS

The spring reports have been posted in AIS documents for the August 26th teleconference from the following sources: Awards (Gerry Snyder), Exhibition Schedules (Lois Rose), Exhibition Shows (Wayne Messer), Exhibition Supplies (Nick Stewart), Honorary Awards (Gary White), Intellectual & Scientific Advisory (Bob Hollingworth), Library (Dave Silverberg), National Garden Collection & Preservation (Charles Carver) and Symposium (Riley Probst).

2. Awards - Gerry Snyder

There was a discussion about how visits to gardens and voting the AIS Ballot would be handled in 2021 if the COVID-19 restrictions remain in place. Wayne Messer and Gerry Snyder were asked to organize a group of people to plan contingencies for voting the AIS Ballot next year. Bonnie Nichols, Mike Reed and Andi Rivarola volunteered to participate in this ad hoc committee.

3. Exhibition Shows - Wayne Messer

There was a discussion about how shows would be handled in 2021, if the COVID-19 restrictions remain in place during the show season next year. One suggestion was for the AIS Board to approve a set of criteria that, if followed, would allow a virtual show to be sanctioned. It also was suggested that we investigate how other iris affiliates and other garden and flower clubs are handling shows and awards during the COVID-19 restrictions.

4. Exhibition Supplies - Nick Stewart

Nick described his process for purchasing more show entry tags. Before finalizing the purchase, Gary White and Lois Rose will discuss changes to the wording on the show entry tags and forward that information to Nick.

5. Symposium - Riley Probst

Howie Dash will send out a reminder to the RVPs to have the results of the regional balloting sent to Riley by September 1st. Riley plans to present the results of the 2020 Symposium at the November AIS teleconference.

6. Registrar/Reporter - John Jones

John gave an update on the registration of iris.

OLD BUSINESS

7. Iris Images - Neil Houghton

Motion 2: Image Requirements for AIS Introduction

Resolution:

- 1) Effective for 2021 Introductions, images are required before or with the introduction of an iris cultivar. Images submitted with registrations are encouraged. Images submitted with registration will satisfy the above requirement when and if the iris is introduced.
- 2) Images should be submitted to the AIS Image Coordinator.
- 3) Images must be free of watermark or other text. Name of the registrant, name and class of cultivar, date of introduction, and photographer ~~must~~ **should** be included in the filename for proper identification and credit.
- 4) These images should be of the highest resolution available. AIS would like an image of at least 1 MB (1000 KB). There is no upper limit except for the practicality of submission.
- 5) One image of the bloom is required. Up to 5 images may be submitted. These may include: another view, the clump, the stalk and/or a close-up of a distinguishing feature.
- 6) If a registrant is not capable of complying with this requirement, a written request, detailing the reason(s) an exemption is being sought, must be submitted to the AIS Image Coordinator prior to **the exemption** being considered.
- 7) If a photo is not included with introduction (or registration) or an exemption has not been requested and received, the iris shall not be considered an official introduction for the purposes of entering the AIS Awards System in the United State of America or Canada.

Motion by Neil Houghton and seconded by Howie Dash. Motion, **as amended**, is carried.

Discussion: "Introduction" according to current policy is offering for sale of the iris. Offers of iris made on Facebook and social media are not the same as those made in catalogs or websites. Therefore, irises posted for sale on Facebook and social media would not have met the standard for introduction. The discussion of introduction continued. The limit on a filename of a photo is 250 characters. The discussion of filename continued. A discussion of compliance took place. John Jones, Wayne Messer and Jody Nolin will continue to confer about establishing a Constant Contact forum for hybridizers.

8. Webinar update - Andi Rivarola

Attendance is increasing, even someone from New Zealand. Planning for the Winter Series of webinars has begun. A discussion of how the webinars will be used and archived ensued. Three questions regarding the judges training were addressed.

9. Membership Development Committee update - Andi Rivarola

Results of their first survey have been published. A second survey has been put out on News & Notes.

10. COVID-19 impact on bylaws - Gary White

Restrictions and mandates from local, state and federal governments due to the COVID-19 pandemic have interfered with the bylaws of some AIS affiliate clubs, sections, societies and regions. Dale Strauss, the AIS counsel, has produced a sample amendment that could be sent out to the affiliates, sections, societies and regions that would address this omission from the bylaws. In addition, Dale wrote a set of rules that could be applied to electronic meetings. Gary will send members of the AIS Board of Directors copies of the documents that Dale Strauss has provided and this topic will be addressed at the next teleconference. A discussion of the process of amending bylaws ensued.

NEW BUSINESS

11. Electronics Chair - Jody Nolin

By acclamation, the new Electronics Chair will be Lorene Crone.

12. Medals - John Ludi

There was a small mistake made on the centennial medals. To compensate, they gave AIS extra medals. It is plated with beautiful colors.

13. Budget reminder - Jill Bonino

Jill is accepting reservations from those folks who would like to be included in the AIS budget. Send her an email with your request before October 15th. The November teleconference will be devoted to the AIS budget.

14. Centennial supplement publication - Jim Morris

Because the draft of the fourth Bulletin centennial supplement has surpassed 120 pages, Jim asked that a fifth supplement be funded. He would call it 4B and it would be included with the winter edition of the Bulletin. There was a discussion of its funding.

Motion 3: that we approve the publication of a fifth edition of the Centennial supplement.

Motion by Howie Dash and seconded by Gary White. Motion carried.

15. The Russian Iris Society (RIS) - Jody Nolin

The RIS has requested permission to translate the article on the founding of AIS into Russian for their bulletin. In addition, they would like to have a reciprocal agreement where AIS and RIS exchange PDF copies of their bulletins.

16. Announcements

- The fiscal year for AIS ends September 30th. Michelle Snyder will send out an email in mid-September announcing the deadline for her to receive any receipt(s) for reimbursement or deposit.

- Susan Driver reminded us that she is accepting high resolution photos that have not been previously published for the 2022 calendar.
- Michelle Snyder reminded us that there are missing job descriptions. Please send them to her for inclusion in the Operations Manual.
- The next teleconference will be September 23th. Please have all agenda topics to Jody the week before. All the spring reports have been presented except for judges and judges handbook (tabled for October teleconference). Agenda items for September: ad hoc report on Awards & AIS Ballot (Wayne Messer), Virtual Shows (Bonnie Nichols), Bylaws & COVID (Gary White) and any fall reports that have been submitted.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider