

Minutes of the July 27, 2022, AIS Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
Approved August 24, 2022 without corrections.

Attending:

Andi Rivarola (15) - President, Convention Liaison (quasi-temporary), Public Relations,
Social Media, Strategic Planning, Membership Development
Bonnie Jean Nichols (17) - 1st VP, Judges, Handbook Revision, RVP 17,
Convention Chair 2023
Howie Dash (23) - 2nd VP, RVP Counselor, Audit
Claire Schneider (15) - Secretary, Recording Secretary
Jill Bonino (15) – Treasurer, Foundation Liaison
Jody Nolin (6) - Immediate Past President, Honorary Awards, Affiliate Chair
John Ludi (13) – Publication Sales Director, Storefront, RVP 13
Pam Messer (21) – Membership
Jane Milliman (2) - absent

Bill Dumont (13) - absent
Cheryl Deaton (15) - Director, Youth
Doug Chyz (5), Director, Public Relations & Marketing
Janis Shackelford (15) – Director, Registrar/Recorder, Policy, RVP 15
Jean Richter (14) - Director
Linda Wilkie (21) - Director, Bulletin Advertising
Lorene Crone (7) – Director, Electronic Services
Mike Reed (17) – Director, Awards
Phyllis Wilburn (14) – Director, Section & Cooperating Society Liaison
Scarlett Ayres (23) – Director, AIS 2022 Convention Co-chair
Susan Driver (7) – Director, Calendars, Photo Contest
Wayne Messer (21) - Director, News & Notes, Electronic Services Website, RVP 21
Margaret Kelly (9) - RVP 9, RVP Representative

Bob Hollingworth (8) - Scientific Advisory, Intellectual Property
Gary White (21) - Finance, Webinars
Josh Winzer (22) - RVP 22, Nominations
Lois Rose (4) - Exhibitions Schedules

Anna Cadd (14)
Carol Cullen (14)
Carolyn Hoover (14) - RVP 14
Charlotte Brennand (12) - RVP 12
Delane Langton (11)
Heather Haley (4)
Jan Blaedel (14)
Jeannette Graham (11)

Joann Bassett (2)
Kate Brewitt (2)
Mary Platner (15)
Wendy Roller (2)
Susan Grigg (4)
Beth & Mason Train (15)
Beverly

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm PDT. A quorum was present

1. Minutes from previous Zoom Meeting - Claire Schneider

Motion 1: to accept the minutes from the June 22, 2022, Zoom Board Meeting without corrections. Motion by Jill Bonino and seconded by Howie Dash. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2. AIS Ballot voting system software development update - Mike Reed

Mike has written a requirements document for the software and sent it to the dean of software engineering at University of Texas for a possible bid. Because there has been no reply, Tim Valenzuela was mentioned as a potential candidate to develop this software. However, Tim is currently working on the on-line registration software, so the online AIS Ballot software would have to wait.

Approximately 230 judges have submitted their 2022 Ballots. Mike has been entering the data by hand for the paper ballots received. He sends a confirmation email for each ballot that he has received.

Because it is so easy to vote the AIS Ballot online, it is surprising that so many judges are still voting with a paper ballot. The website address is voteirises.org and it turns out a judge can enter the same user name and password as last year. The confirmation email from online voting comes from AISvotes@voteirises.org.

For mailing paper AIS Ballots, Mike uses addresses from AIS membership. A problem comes up when members change residences and do not update their address with AIS. Mike suggested that it would be more accurate and efficient if the three AIS data bases were integrated and online: AIS membership, judges, and registrations.

The judges have been reminded about the deadline for voting the AIS Ballot. There currently is no way for a judge to check online that their ballot has been submitted.

3. 2022 Membership Drive update - Pam Messer

A digital report was posted, information only.

There are 757 new members in AIS as a result of the 2022 Membership Drive. Fifty-eight out of 150 affiliate clubs enrolled new members. Five sections and two cooperating societies recruited new AIS members. The Membership Development Committee will be meeting soon to work on the 2023 Drive.

4. AIS Library update - Bob Hollingworth

There has been a relaunch of the Library Committee. Members are Andi Rivarola, Jody Nolin, Gary White, Bonnie Nichols, Jill Bonino, with Bob Hollingworth as chair. Ad hoc members are Bob Pries and Will Plotner. They usually meet once a month via Zoom.

The physical space in Molalla is adequate to house the AIS Library. The current lease will end at the end of June 2024, so there is time to make decisions about the future of the Library.

Bringing the Library into the digital age, WiFi has been installed and accessories purchased: new computer with updated software and document scanner.

The major problem has been the lack of an inventory of materials. There are books, periodicals, catalogs, memorabilia, hybridizing records, trophies, medals, photographs, slides, some art work and who knows what else. One recommendation is to find someone with a library science background or professional archivist to help with the inventory of all these items in the Library. Bob H. suggested that this be a paid position. The Library could also benefit from a part time secretary, who could facilitate communication between the Library and the wiki.

Accessions have been a problem: is there a policy about which items are acceptable and how many of each to keep? The Library Committee has decided that two copies of books are adequate with the extra copies being donated to AIS or regional fund raisers.

Scanning massive numbers of slides and printed documents is time consuming and expensive. Priorities need to be set. Another challenge is recovering previous online iris catalogs. Each year a new catalog replaces last year's catalog, so how can the old catalogs be accessed? Or for that matter, how can anything online be recorded and saved?

There is funding for all of this work available from the Foundation.

Being located in Molalla, Oregon, accessibility to the AIS Library has been a problem. A better location would be near a major city or university campus where a larger pool of volunteers might exist. Perhaps there is a generous person out there who will consider donating a home or facility with land as a new location for the AIS Library.

With such a massive collection of items in the AIS Library, it would be great to see an exhibit at each national convention.

It is important to send items to Will Plotner, at his home address, not directly to the AIS Library. Before sending anything, an email should be sent to Will that describes what is being sent, how many boxes, tracking numbers, etc.

Newsletters these days are digital. However, because paper copies of most newsletters are still being published, perhaps a decision should be made regarding which format is acceptable for the Library: paper or digital. There is an ongoing discussion about how and where the digital resources will be accessed and stored: the wiki or the Library.

NEW BUSINESS

5. Schedule of Fall Reports - Claire Schneider

A digital copy of the Schedule of Fall Reports was posted. People in the schedule were asked to review their dates of presentation and send any changes to Claire. The first round of Fall Reports will be heard at the August 24th Zoom Meeting. Claire will send out a reminder.

6. AIS Convention Handbook 2022 Edition - Andi Rivarola

For the last few weeks, the 20-year old *Convention Handbook* has been posted online as a Google Document where people could contribute and edit, bringing it into the digital age. Andi emphasized that the 2022 Edition is a living document, eligible for future updates and revisions, if necessary. In fact, after her thrilling experience as co-chair of the 2022 Convention, Scarlett Ayres has pages and pages of suggestions for the next revision. Hosts of conventions are invited to use the *Convention Handbook* as a resource but not to treat it as an absolute, final rulebook. Previous editions of the *Convention Handbook* were not approved by the AIS Board of Directors and neither was this one, the 2022 Edition.

The *AIS Convention Handbook* will be posted online along with links to various documents related to running a convention: budget outlines, registration forms, garden spreadsheets, etc.

Clarification: AIS conventions are approved by the Board but after that, the host Convention Committee is responsible for the hotel, gardens, dinners, buses and everything else. Although conventions are called AIS conventions, most aspects of the convention are left to the host, including signing of contracts and financial responsibility. AIS will sign a convention contract only when it is the host organization. There are documents that govern the actions of AIS and require the approval of the AIS Board such as the *Handbook for Judges*, AIS Bylaws, and *AIS RVP Handbook*. The *AIS Convention Handbook* is a set of guidelines and suggestions and not every convention is obligated to follow it.

Another source of information for hosting a convention is the meeting at each convention where previous and future convention chairs meet to share experiences and answer questions. These chairs can provide examples of registration forms, spreadsheets, garden instructions, etc.

7. Handbook for Judges revision - Bonnie Nichols

Chapter 4: One of the Chapter 4 revisions is allowing a show chair to order show entry tags without having a show approval number. Another revision was to repair the conflict (between Chapter 4 and 24) regarding the entry of stalks in more than one exhibition

division. A chart was inserted to offer another view of seedling eligibility. In the Educational Division, electronic program was added as another possible entry.

Motion 2: to approve Chapter 4.

Motion by Howie Dash and seconded by Jill Bonino. Motion was approved.

Discussion: Another inconsistency (regarding single blossom) was pointed out, **so we want to see this chapter again, at the August Board meeting.**

Chapter 24: The chart of seedling eligibility from Chapter 4 was added. A sentence about expecting an artistic quality in a collection was also added.

Motion 3: to approve Chapter 24 Collections with revisions.

Motion by Howie Dash and seconded by Phyllis Wilburn. Motion approved.

Discussion: these same revisions to Chapter 24 need to be incorporated into Chapters 25, 26, and 28.

The title of Appendix F was changed to "Ethics: Rules of Conduct for Judges." Several other sentences were modified.

Motion 4: to accept the addition of Appendix F

Motion by Jody Nolin and seconded by Phyllis Wilburn. Motion approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Webinars are in hiatus for August.

Neil Houghton has retired as image coordinator and iris programs digital. Thank you, Neil, for all your dedication and hard work. Jean Richter has taken on both of those positions.

The Honorary Awards Committee - Jody Nolin

Three additional members have been added to this committee: Bob Hollingworth, John Ludi, and Jill Bonino. All are Distinguished Service Medal recipients.

Three past presidents have passed away recently: Jim Rasmussen, Dave Niswonger and Jeanne Plank.

Mike Reed projected that the 2022 AIS award winners will be announced after August 15th.

The next AIS Board of Directors meeting will be August 24, at 5 pm Pacific time.

Adjourned at 7:03 pm Pacific Time

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider