

AIS Board Videoconference, Wednesday, March 27, 2019

Present:

Jody Nolin- president, Affiliations Liaison

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

Bonnie Jean Nichols- 2nd VP, Judges

Michelle Snyder- Secretary

Dwayne Booth - Treasurer

Gary White- Immediate Past President, Honorary Awards

John Jones – Registrar/Recorder

Claire Schneider – Director, Recording Secretary

Dawn Boyer - Director, Bulletin Advertising Editor

Gerry Snyder - Director, Awards

Howie Dash – Director, RVP counselor

Janis Shackelford – Director, Policy

Jill Bonino - Director, Foundation Liaison

John Ludi – Director, Publication Sales Director

Neil Houghton - Director, Iris Program Resources Digital

Phyllis Wilburn – Director, Section & Cooperating Society Liaison

Wayne Messer - Director, Exhibition Show Reports, News & Notes

Bob Pries - Encyclopedia Manager, Gardens, Public Relations & Marketing

Lois Rose - Exhibitions Schedules

Cheryl Deaton – Photo Contest, Youth

Bob Hollingworth – Scientific Advisory

Jim Morris (18)

Doug Chyz, RVP 4

Scarlett Ayers, RVP 23

Lorene Crone (7)

Susan Boyce RVP 12

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 PM PST followed by Roll Call.

A quorum was present.

1. Centennial publications update - Jim Morris

There are four supplements (publications) planned:

1) Prologue to 1920 and 1920-1945

2) 1945 to 1970

3) 1971 to 1995

4) 1996 to 2020

Topics for articles in the publications include the history of various region and affiliate clubs, biographies, vignettes of gardens with a special connection to the AIS, and the evolution of the modern iris.

The editors of the Centennial publications continue to search for humorous stories, the oldest affiliate club, and the histories of each of the regions and affiliates. Jim reported that as of today he had received reports from 14 of the 158 affiliate clubs. Images of iris and iris events are being collected, too.

2. Minutes from Feb 27th meeting - Claire Schneider

There were no corrections.

Motion 1 to accept the minutes from the February 27, 2019, teleconference made by Bonnie Jean Nichols and seconded by Neil Houghton. Motion carried.

3. Website update - Andi Rivarola

The changes and information that were requested by Thirsty (the company that is developing the new AIS website) have been submitted. Andi hasn't heard back from them. Thirsty says they are working on it.

Discussion: While Thirsty is working to "populate" the pages of the new website, perhaps Thirsty could begin training for those folks who will be posting new information on the website.

4. Invitation from Iris Society of Dallas - Bonnie Nichols

The Iris Society of Dallas extends an invitation to the AIS to host the 2022 national convention. They have a cooperative and experienced panel of workers who know they can make the 2022 convention a successful event. The focus will be on arilbreds, median and early tall bearded irises. They are planning for a date in early April.

Motion 2: that AIS accept the invitation of the Iris Society of Dallas to host the Spring 2022 convention in Dallas, Texas.

Motion by Michelle Snyder and seconded by Jill Bonino. Passed unanimously.

Discussion: Bonnie explained that their club membership is large and growing (over 100) because they keep most of the new folks who sign up at shows and sales events. The key, she said, was to continually offer programs on the topic of iris.

It will be five years and counting since there has been a Siberian iris at an AIS convention.

When will a convention be held in the northern tier so that Siberian irises could be included in the gardens? Perhaps the Siberian Society could investigate a possible host for 2023? Perhaps in Region 2, maybe in upstate New York or Toronto?

5. Investment Plan - Dwayne Booth

Revisions are in the attachment that was sent out earlier this week. Allocation ranges have been tightened up. The emphasis is on income and growth income. A review policy has been added to address fluctuations in the market. The review policy contains a list of actions to address three possible scenarios: a market correction, a bear market and a full-out crash.

Discussion: This proposal for an AIS investment policy is based on the Foundation's investment policy. Definitions of financial and economic terms can have different interpretations so maybe definitions should not be in the policy. Many remarks about the wording and the direction of the investment plan were made. The discussion continued until it was suggested that an AIS Finance Committee be formed that is separate from the Audit Committee. It should consist of four to six members who meet regularly to study financial issues such as AIS investments and budget and make recommendations of policy and procedure to the board. This committee should address other financial issues such as how cash is handled at conventions. Further discussion of the investment plan was tabled to give the new Finance Committee time to create a list of goals and objectives and later to work on Dwayne's investment plan.

6. New business & announcements

- Michelle Snyder needs all reports no later than April 10th so they can be ready for posting on the Internet for the San Ramon Convention. Jill Bonino will be secretary while Michelle is absent. The second distribution from the Richardson Estate is in the mail.
- Andi Rivarola reported that Ken Fuchs will be the registrar for the 2020 Convention. Paul Gossett has continued to work with Andi on the convention.
- Michelle Snyder reported that all of the bylaws revisions passed. A full report of the bylaws vote will be in the secretary's report and presented at the San Ramon Convention.
- Janis Shackelford has developed a compendium of AIS motions from the board meeting minutes between 2004 and 2018. The compendium is saved in an Excel file. One problem has been activating the links to the 2018 motions. Janis has compiled three different searchable files: an index, meeting date and motion, topic and motion. John Jones will post the files on AISboard.org and on the website. To fulfill a request by Neil, Janis now is working on a compendium of events for the last 25 years. She will be going through the minutes and Bulletins of those years and could continue her work on the motions at the same time. There is a compendium of minutes in Word format from 1988 forward that should be searchable. The file of motions-only began in 2004.
- Gerry Snyder has been going through the list of judges and comparing it to Tom Gormley's membership list. The ballot is ready to go to the printer. Obtaining the artwork for the Wister medals is still in progress.
- Jody Nolin reminded everyone that the marathon in-person AIS fall meetings are now scheduled for every third year. This means that in years without a fall meeting, officers and committee chairs will need to present their annual or semi-annual reports at one of the teleconferences. At the San Ramon Convention officers and committee chairs will have the opportunity to choose the most appropriate teleconference at which to present their report. Michelle Snyder reminded us that a written copy of the report must be sent to her ahead of time so it can be posted on the website. If a report contains a motion, requires an action or covers a controversial topic, then time for discussion will be provided during its scheduled teleconference. Reports without motions, actions or controversy will be acknowledged but probably not discussed. The plan is that teleconferences should not exceed two hours. Speaking of meetings, all AIS meetings are public and could be better publicized by putting notices of the teleconferences in the Bulletin, on the AIS website and in News and Notes months before the actual teleconference.
- John Jones is planning to make the board meeting at the San Ramon Convention part of a Zoom conference call. This will make the meeting very public, indeed.

7. Adjourn at 6:12 PM

Michelle Snyder moved to adjourn and Howie Dash seconded.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider