

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

Present:

Jody Nolin (6) - president, Affiliations Liaison

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

Jill Bonino (15) – Treasurer, Foundation Liaison

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

John Jones (14) – Registrar/Recorder

Jane Milliman (2) – Editor of Bulletin

Claire Schneider (15) – Director, Recording Secretary

Doug Chyz (4) - Director, RVP 4

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

Bryce Williamson (15) – Electronic Services

Lois Rose (4) – Exhibition Schedules

Eva Barry (23) – RVP 23

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

A quorum was present.

1. Approve the minutes from previous meeting – Claire Schneider

**Motion 1:** to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2020, videoconference.

Motion by Howie Dash and seconded by Janis Shackelford. Motion passed.

2. Audit Committee – Howie Dash submitted an electronic report.

The last two fiscal years need to be audited, one ending September 2018 and the other September 2019. Because the cost seems exorbitant, Howie is looking for a qualified volunteer to conduct these audits. The goal is to have the 2019 audit completed in time for the 2020 Spring Convention and the 2018 audit completed in the summer. For credibility it was suggested that a person outside the Audit Committee conduct these audits. For the actual audit, Jill has the 2019 records and Dwayne Booth has the 2018 records.

3. 2020 Convention update – Jill Bonino submitted an electronic report.

Jill reported that as of February 21<sup>st</sup>, 221 have registered for the convention and \$63,070 in registration fees has been deposited. Lori Rhodes of the Inland Region Iris Society (I.R.I.S.) in

Region 15 has taken on the task of the ordering and stuffing the convention tote bags with various goodies. Jill and Lori will coordinate making the name badges. Volunteers are needed to staff the registration table during the hours of the convention. Minimal experience is necessary. Howie Dash is in charge of contracting for buses and for organizing the bus rosters. Bonnie Jean Nichols will be the bus captain and will work with Howie.

The Section and Cooperating Society meeting is scheduled on the same day as one of the excursions. It was suggested that for those folks planning to attend meetings on excursion days, that they ride back to the convention hotel in a taxi or Uber instead of waiting for the AIS bus. Reservations before the convention might be required for some of the excursion sites. Visit the 2020 AIS Convention website for more information.

4. The Centennial Medals – Andi Rivarola submitted an electronic report.

The price for each Centennial Medal purchased at the convention will be \$10. After the convention, the price will be \$12 which includes shipping. The price of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medal will be \$5. Because there are very few of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medals, the decision was made to sell these in a set with the Centennial, 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Medals for the price of \$50.

**Motion 2:** that the prices of the medals presented in Andi's report be accepted by the AIS Board. Motion by Doug Chyz and seconded by Jill Bonino. The motion passed.

5. Update on access to Registrar's Database – John Jones

The challenge has been to create a system that will allow unimpeded sharing of photos among the image coordinator, registrar and the wiki-Encyclopedia. Consultations with the Apple people, ISP support and the filemaker advisors have not solved the problem. John has been authorized to consult with a Filemaker pro for as much as five one hour sessions.

6. Introduction v.s. Registration update – Howie Dash & John Jones

In previous board discussions it was proposed that new irises be registered but not introduced. The majority of the twenty hybridizers who were surveyed responded that they were opposed to dropping the introduction requirement. The survey and results are included in the electronic documents folder of this teleconference.

Next, Howie and John will work on the definition of "introduction." For example, what size audience would be required for an acceptable introduction of an iris.

7. Professional photographer for Centennial Awards Banquet

Neil is organizing a regiment of amateur photographers to document the people, flowers and banquets of the convention. Professional photographers are expensive and it might be more fun to see the candid shots taken by attendees. A reminder that it's very important that the names of

people and irises in the photos be documented so they can be identified in publications. A suggestion was to take a photo of the name tag or iris label and then the person or iris. A hint to photographers: consider the background and frame of your photo.

#### 8. Scanning of 1939 and 1949 checklists

John Jones reported that all of the 1939 and 1949 checklists have been scanned and uploaded to the wiki-Iris Encyclopedia. John recommended this data also be integrated into the Registration Database. However the format of these old checklists is not compatible with the current checklists. In the future, John would like to find a volunteer who could and would upload these checklists using a compatible format.

#### 9. Electronic Services report – Bryce Williamson submitted an electronic report

The work on the new website is on-going. Problems such as broken links and incorrect displays of the first page are being dealt with. Updates are being entered of officers, meetings, websites, conventions, etc. Uploading continues of past documents and lists of medals and awards. All of this is very time-consuming and Bryce thanked all of the people who have assisted, especially Wayne Messer.

Bryce suggested that with the advent of the electronic age, the policy about releasing Symposium results might need to be changed. Currently, the results cannot be released until the Bulletin “is in the hands of members.” However, the Bulletin is available online and can be accessed up to a week before the paper copy arrives “into the hands of members.” It seems like the Symposium results could be released sooner.

With the input of Bryce and Randall, Jody will draft a letter to Thirsty, the group that created the new AIS website, asking them to fix the problems on the first page of the AIS website.

#### 10. The Silver Iris – Howie Dash

The Silver Iris is a restored 1950s Pullman railcar. Howie has been approached about using the Silver Iris as part of the 2021 AIS Convention. A special train trip including the Silver Iris could be arranged to carry convention attendees from Albuquerque to Las Cruces and back to Albuquerque at the end of the convention. There are details to be worked out such as making sure the railroad tracks are intact. Howie has asked if the dates of Railroad Days could be moved to coincide with the 2021 AIS Convention.

#### 11. The Chelsea Flower Show – Jody Nolin

At the January meeting, the AIS Board voted to send the British Iris Society (BIS) \$500 and promotional material towards their booth at the Chelsea Flower Show, the objective being to promote the cultivation and joy of irises. Jody asked if anyone has iris promotional materials (e.g. computer files or posters) that could be sent to the BIS. The posters we have are out-dated and would be expensive to mail. One suggestion was to create a digital poster that could be

printed there. The digital poster could contain information about AIS including the Centennial logo and our website and Facebook addresses. Another suggestion was to share copies of the AIS Centennial publications. Andi Rivarola and Neil Houghton will work on the digital poster.

12. Ad in the American Gardener magazine

The American Horticultural Society published the ad for AIS in its latest issue of the American Gardener.

13. Future agenda topics

Lori Galletti issue

Board of Directors Award

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next videoconference will be Wednesday, March 25, 2020, 5 PM PDT.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 PM PST.

Respectfully submitted, Claire Schneider