

Minutes of the April 11, 2022, AIS Board of Directors In-Person Meeting
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Approved at the May 25, 2022, Board meeting. Corrections are in red text.

Present:

Andi Rivarola (15) - President, Convention Liaison (temporary), Public Relations,
Social Media, Strategic Planning, Membership Development
Bonnie Jean Nichols (17) - 1st VP, Judges, Handbook Revision, RVP 17
Howie Dash (23) - 2nd VP, RVP Counselor, Audit Comm, AIS 2022 Convention Co-chair
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, RVP 13
Pam Messer (21) via Zoom – Membership

Cheryl Deaton (15) - Director, Youth
Doug Chyz (5), Director, Public Relations & Marketing
Janis Shackelford (15) – Director, Registrar/Recorder, Policy, RVP 15
Jean Richter (14) attended via Zoom - Director
Linda Wilkie (21) - Director
Lorene Crone (7) – Director, Electronic Services
Mike Reed (17) – Director, Awards
Phyllis Wilburn (14) attended via Zoom – Director, Section & Cooperating Society
Liaison
Scarlett Ayres (23) – Director, AIS 2022 Convention Co-chair
Susan Driver (7) – Director, Calendars, Photo Contest
Wayne Messer (21) attended via Zoom - Director, News & Notes, Electronic Services,
Website, RVP 21
Linda Baumgartner (20) - RVP 20, RVP Representative

Carolyn Hoover (14) - RVP 14
Charlotte Brennand (12) - RVP 12
Christine Dickinson (14) attended via Zoom
Dawn Boyer via Zoom (17) - Advertising in *Iris: The Bulletin*
Debbie Strauss (17)
Dale Strauss (17)
Gary White (21) - Finance, Webinars
Gerry Snyder (15)
Heather Haley (4)
Jeanette Graham (11)
Jim Hedgecock (18) - RVP 18
Jim Morris (18)
Jean Morris (18)
Lois Rose (4)
Mark Warinner (20)
Michelle Snyder (15) - Insurance

Neil Houghton (2) - RVP 2, Image Coordinator, Iris Program Resources Digital
Patricia Randall (23)
Beth Train (15)
Mason Train (15)
Yolanda Koontz (23)

The hybrid meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm MDT. Most attended in person with a few attending via Zoom.

1. Introductions were made around the room. A sign-up sheet was passed around.

2. Gary White was appointed motions secretary and Howie Dash was appointed parliamentarian.

3. Minutes from previous Zoom Meeting - Claire Schneider

Motion 1: to approve the minutes from the March 23, 2022, Board Zoom Meeting. Motion by Cheryl Deaton and seconded by Jody Nolin. Motion passed.

SPRING REPORTS

4. Youth - Cheryl Deaton

A digital report was posted online, information only. The latest count is 101 youth members. Evelyn and Ava Toth have been hybridizing and introducing irises and will be the keynote speakers along with their dad at the Median Iris Society meeting. The 2021 Cosgrove winner was Andre Chien (18).

5. Membership - Pam Messer

A digital report was posted online, information only. After five weeks of an 18-week campaign, the 2022 Membership Drive has registered 72 new members. This is a great start! AIS Lookup is now on the AIS website under the Member Page Quick Link. The AIS online payment system has added affiliate fees. As of April 2022, total domestic AIS membership was 2957 with 90.7% as adult members. Total international membership was 135.

6. RVP - Howie Dash

Two digital reports were posted online: the *RVP Report* and minutes from their February 15, 2022 Zoom meeting.

Motion 2: to approve Margaret Kelly (9) as the new RVP rep to the AIS Board, Carolyn Hoover (14) as RVP secretary, and Jim Hedgecock (8) and Joshua Winzer (22) to represent RVPs on the AIS Nomination Committee.

Motion by Howie Dash and seconded by Cheryl Deaton. Motion passed.

7. Irises: The Bulletin of AIS - Jane Milliman (absent)

Jane's report was read to the Board of Directors. The deadline for submissions to be published in *Irises: The Bulletin* is June 10th for the summer issue, September 10th for the fall issue, December 15th for the winter issue and March 10th for the spring issue.

8. Finance - Gary White

A digital report was posted online. This committee has met several times to review the AIS Investment policy and make adjustments for the changing economy. "The market value of AIS investments at 3-31-22 is \$ 989,632 on a cost basis of \$992,940. The annual yield on these funds ranges from .05% to 7.35%. The transfer of the Edward Jones investments in May of last year have all been invested in bond funds, so our portfolio is well diversified between stock funds and bond funds."

The Finance Committee and the AIS Foundation Board are working on a final draft of the Donation Development Program. The program will expand methods of donating to AIS. For example, donating electronically rather than just by check or credit card, setting up a process for making monthly or annual donations, and adding AIS to an estate plan. The AIS Foundation website will be updated to accommodate and encourage an increase of donations. At a later time, this program will be presented to the AIS Board of Directors.

9. Treasurer - Jill Bonino

Three digital reports were posted online: The *Treasurer's Report*, *AIS Assets* and the *PL by Operations*. All of Jill's reports are information only. From the *Treasurer's Report*: The net income for the general fund for the past six months was \$50,985. Investments over the last six months generated \$32,214 in capital gains, which was not included in the September 30, 2022 Budget. Unrestricted donations for the last six months totaled \$6,445, which is about double from previous years. The restricted funds had a loss of \$7,103 resulting from costs of *100 Years Bold* and the security program, *KnowB4*.

Claire Schneider, the new general secretary, is sending deposit, invoices and vouchers via electronic means eliminating the shipping of paper records.

The PayPal accounts are still being modified.

After the spring issue of *Irises: The Bulletin* has been printed and distributed, the cost of sending it to the members participating in the 2022 Membership Development Program will be known.

New credit cards have been issued to Lorene Crone and Janis Shackelford.

Motion 3: to approve the use of an AIS credit card by Mike Reed as the current Awards & Ballots chair with a limit of \$15,000, effective immediately.

Motion by Jill Bonino and seconded by Bonnie Nichols. Motion passed.

The report, *AIS Assets*, is a spread sheet showing monetary totals as of March 31, 2022, for checking & savings, other assets, unrestricted funds, restricted funds, liabilities, and fund balances.

The report, *PL by Operations*, is a spreadsheet showing income and expenses by operational area for six months ending March 31, 2022. Included are member services, exhibitions, registrations, storefront, and administrative functions.

A lot of work, Jill. Nicely done!

10. Judges - Bonnie Nichols

A digital report was posted online: *Judges Report revised*, information only. Since December 2021, five judges have died, one has resigned, and one has retired. Eleven judges have not renewed their AIS membership and are in danger of losing their certification. Bonnie has made several attempts to help these 11 judges keep their certification, contacting them directly or the RVP of their region. Judges that need training hours can use the online training webinars.

11. Reblooming Iris Society - Rose Kinnard, RIS membership secretary

Two digital reports were posted online: *RIS Yearly membership Report* and *RIS membership spread sheet*, both information only. Rose hopes that this information will assist RIS regional directors in knowing who is active in their region and who might need encouragement to renew their membership. Membership can be purchased through the AIS PayPal system.

OLD BUSINESS

12. Convention and meeting updates

Efforts are being made to find a host for the 2025 AIS Convention.

The next in-person AIS Fall Meeting will be in November 2024. Several people inquired about the logistics of the Fall Meeting.

13. Artistic Design Judge - Dawn Boyer

Two documents were posted that describe a proposal for the certification and grandfathering of the artistic design judge.

Motion 4: that the Board approve the certification of Artistic Design Judge as laid out in the two documents presented by Dawn Boyer.

Motion by Jody Nolin and seconded by Susan Driver. Motion passed.

Discussion: If approved, the Artistic Design Judge certification process will be included in the *Handbook for Judges*. There has been extensive discussion of the certification artistic design judge in AISTalk. Dawn will be giving a presentation on this topic Friday.

14. KnowB4 program - Andi Rivarola

Because of technical issues that could not be solved, Andi asked for a refund for the *KnowB4* program. As a result of trying to work the *KnowB4* program, Wayne Messer was able to hide all of the email addresses. This has reduced the number of gift requests from ominous invaders. Affiliates have been encouraged to add a separate email address for their club so that multiple people can access the account as well as protecting the officers of those affiliate clubs.

NEW BUSINESS

15. Online registration of irises - Andi Rivarola

A digital report was posted. The current method of registering an iris is via snail mail. A group has met to discuss the development of an online registration system. For ideas, the group visited the online registration process used by the Daylily Society. A proposal was sent to Tim Valenzuela to which he quickly responded detailing three phases of development plus a program of maintenance. It would take approximately three months and not longer than six months to create this online registration program at a cost of \$25,000.

Motion 5: That AIS proceed with the electronic iris registration, \$25,000 to cover the cost of the system.

Motion by Doug Chyz and seconded by Bonnie Nichols. Motion passed.

NOMINATIONS for Directors whose terms will expire in 2025

16. Nomination Report - Claire Schneider

A digital report was posted. As of April 7, 2022, there are seven candidates: Bill Dumont (13), Carolyn Hoover (14), Doug Chyz (5), Linda Baumgartner (20), Linda Wilkie (21), Lorene Crone (7), and Heather Haley (4). There were no nominations from the floor.

The Board of Directors adjourned to an executive session. After the Board reconvened, Andi Rivarola named the four candidates: Doug Chyz (5), Linda Wilkie (21), Lorene Crone (7) and Heather Haley (4).

APPOINTMENT of the Nomination Committee 2023

AIS Board members: Jody Nolin and Cheryl Deaton.

RVPs: Jim Hedgecock and Josh Winzer.
Section Rep: Anna Cadd
Mentor: Claire Schneider

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be a Zoom meeting, May 25, 2022, at 5 pm PDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider