

Historic Iris Preservation Society
Board Teleconference Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2016

I. Call to Order The meeting was called to order by President Cathy Egerer at 9PM EST/8 PM CST. Nancy McDonald was designated timekeeper for the teleconference call

II. Roll Call Secretary Linda Bell called the roll. Present: President Cathy Egerer, Vice President Dave Prichard, Secretary Linda Bell, Treasurer Judy Keisling, Dorothy Stiefel, Delane Langton, Shaub Dunkley, Judy Schneider, Linda Baumgartner, Lori Lensch-Marcotte, Charlie Carver, Judy Eckhoff, Susan Flow, Nancy McDonald, Laetitia Munro, and Doug Paschall.

Absent: Gary White, Denise Stewart, Kate Brewitt, Paul Gossett, and BJ Jackson.

III. Additions/Changes There were no additions or changes to the Agenda

IV. Minutes The Previous meeting minutes were approved by e-mail prior to the meeting.

V. Treasurer's Report

Judy Keisling reported assets of \$38,647.09, which includes the checking account with about \$5,800, Pay Pal account with \$18,600, and a CD of \$6,778. The CD will be redeemed and moved from the New York State bank and placed in another bank to avoid our funds being confiscated. There is also \$7,400 in the Life Member savings account.

VI. President's Report

Cathy welcomed Lori Lensch-Marcotte to the board; she will be in charge of the HIPS Member Databank.

AIS Convention report: the HIPS presentation at the 2016 AIS Convention in Newark was well received. Our official guests included Milan Blazek from Průhonice Park Garden in Prague, Barbara Wüthrich and Lisa Eggenschwiler from Merian Park Garden in Basel, Switzerland, and Suzanne Broullon from Presby Memorial Iris Garden in New Jersey, an official AIS Convention Tour Garden. The presentations were videotaped and are available on the AIS website, with links to the videos on the HIPS website. Doug Paschall gave an introduction to the Guardian Gardens program. HIPS officers presented a demonstration of a teleconference to interested AIS members.

President Egerer also reported that all the Dykes Medal irises requested by Myddelton House Gardens in Great Britain have been sent and acknowledged. Approximately 75% of the HIPS archives have been returned by Gesine Lohr. There is still a problem with completing the

process. There are some sanitation issues and some of the returned materials need to be deodorized. The board discussed possible legal means that may be needed in order to obtain the balance of the materials. AIS General Counsel Veronica Johnson is advising us.

VII. Old Business/Action Items

A. Committee Chair Updates: Judy Eckhoff reported HIPS has 790 members, with 28 e-members. Life members are 93 single, and 24 dual. Life Members will be contacted to determine if they wish to continue HIPS membership. About 119 will be deleted if dues are not paid, they have 90 days per the by-laws, and are given an additional month to renew. Cathy will send e mails to encourage renewals. HIPS has a new e member from Zambia, and the Clark Gardens in Weatherford, TX, relatives of Hooker Nicholls, has a dual life membership

Nancy has suggested that ROOTS will have a more reasonable date for the Spring/Fall issues so that materials can more easily be sent to Sundance Press. Judy Keisling requested notification so that she can send money for our mailing account. Judy Eckhoff asked to have the address to send the mail labels. Information about the HIPS meeting during the 2017 AIS Convention in Des Moines will be included in ROOTS with the final date and time to be posted on the website and shared via the email newsletter.

Judy Schneider reported that the new format for the rhizome sale worked beautifully. However, Laetitia was contacted by a buyer that said her rhizomes looked dead--it was suggested that a planting guide be included with the rhizomes, and a link to a manual for growing irises on the HIPS website. There was discussion regarding leftover rhizomes and whether they will be boxed in bulk grab bags, in limited quantity.

B. Cathy brought up a concern that HIPS members are paying for the costs of garden rescues out of their own pockets, even when rescued irises are going into the Guardian Gardens program. HIPS may need to allocate additional funds for rescues and irises brought from abroad. Charlie suggested that the increases of GG irises will eventually be sold, so that they will pay for acquisition expenditures. We already have line items in our annual budget for Guardian Gardens and Preservation Projects. Doug will investigate and propose any changes for the 2017 budget.

VIII. New Business/ Action items

A. There needs to be a new plan for the HIPS archives. Cathy suggested that most materials be digitized and placed on line, and the remaining materials be split into at least three sections, such as books, photos, and catalogs so that materials will not be stored in one place. Once the remaining archive materials are received from Gesine and a full inventory is completed, an Archives Committee will be established to decide how best to structure our

Archives program.

B. HIPS needs to have job descriptions for Board and Chair positions. It may be possible to adapt the AIS format for our organization. This is something we will work on this winter.

IX. Other There was no additional discussion.

X. Adjournment President Egerer closed the meeting at 9:20 PM CST/10:20 EST.

Our next Board meeting will be held via teleconference in December, date to be announced.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Bell, Secretary