

Board Meeting Minutes - October 5, 2014

Un-conference room, Cedar Rapids Downtown Library

Board members in attendance: Jonathan Poulton, Keith Riewerts, Sherri Baldonado, Karmin Mullins, Myrna Hass, Heather Harroun, Zora Ronan. Club member in attendance: Loren Hass.

Budget update: Treasurer Sherri Baldonado presented an overview of the treasury as of September 30. Income was a bit higher than projected. Banquet, speaker, photo contest and handbook expenses are still to come. Budget appears to be healthy at this point.

Banquet update:

- Banquet is complimentary for members. Guests will be charged \$25.00. Since guarantees are required, any no-shows for guests will require payment. Zora will invite area clubs.
- Menu is similar to last year.
- Schedule is same as last year: doors open at 11, dinner at noon, election of officers at 1:15, guest speaker at 1:30, break and last call for raffle tickets, Betty Miller photo Contest winners announced at 3:00, raffle and auction at 3:30.
- Bob Faulkner will provide plants—half will be auctioned, half will be bucket raffle. Raffle tickets will be available.
- Nancy Rash is in charge of the door prizes. Zora will bring the buckets and raffle tickets for the plant raffle. Sherri will find someone to be a dedicated raffle-ticket sales person.
- Sylvia Seymour is in charge of the photo contest. Deadline for entries is November 3.
- Keith Riewerts suggested that the grand prize trophy be a traveling trophy with names engraved. He will talk to Sylvia about this.
- Some discussion on the crowded room at the Holiday Inn. Some questions for Nancy Rash:
 1. Is there a maximum number of people we can accommodate in the room for dinner?
 2. Could we move the tables for the photo contest out into the Hallway where the light is better and there is more room to move around?

Newsletter: Lynn Stoll suggested that since we can communicate with most members via the web site and email that there is not a need for the NL to continue. If the membership decides there is a need for the NL, a new editor will be needed. Writing an item for the NL has counted toward club plant eligibility. That will be changed to reference 'writing for the website'. This change will require a motion at the October meeting.

Note: I think we should wait to vote on this motion until the January meeting. Someone might pop up and volunteer to do the NL. Plus, By-laws say that two months notice are required to make changes.

Board elections:

- President-no candidate
- Secretary-Sara Hankemeier
- **Proposal to amend Article IV of the By-laws** to provide for an officer nomination committee will be proposed at the October meeting with a vote at the January meeting.

Committee chairs for 2015: The committee chairs/non-voting board members for 2015 will be:

- Newsletter Editor – removed from board unless NL is reinstated
- Webmaster – Jonathan Poulton
- Membership Chair – Nancy Carlisle
- Club Plant Chair – Zora Ronan
- Silent Auction Chair – Heather Harroun
- Hospitality Chair – Nancy Rash
- Program Chair – Karmin Mullins
- Special Events Chair – no event at this time requiring a chair

Board position change:

- Vice President will assume responsibility for determining club plant eligibility beginning in 2015. This will be written into the officer responsibilities section of the By-Laws.

Spring Plant Sale – possible move to Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids was discussed. A move from North Liberty is necessary because of the lack of parking and visibility. The board thinks this is worth trying for one year. It will be brought to the club for discussion. A final decision does not have to be made until February. If the members choose to not go to the Indian Creek Plant Sale, a new location for our Spring Sale will need to be found. Indian Creek rules are:

- Fee is 25% of gross on plant material, 20% of gross on non-plant material.
- Table fee - \$25.00 for 5 tables, \$3.00 per additional table.
- Set up must be completed by 8:00 am on Saturday; Friday set up allowed.
- No limit on the number of volunteers attending.
- We price items. Bare-rooted or potted allowed.
- Indian Creek collects the money. We provide inventory at start of sale and provide inventory at end of sale. Check sent within a week.

Club plant requirements: the purpose of the club plant is to reward active members. There seems to be a growing inequity because of the low minimum requirements and how eligibility is calculated. For example, donating as little as 1 plant to a plant sale (we don't count) counts exactly the same as chairing a large committee or being a board member. The commitment of time is not even close to equal but both count equally toward eligibility. The consensus is that a weighted system is required. Nothing will change for the club plants for 2015. The board will request a committee to study this with recommendations to be presented in January 2015 to take effect in January 2016.

Membership Manual: This manual is just about ready to go. The manual will be on-line shortly after the October 11th meeting, and only those members who do not have internet will receive hard copies.

Recorded October 6, 2014

Zora Ronan, President