

# Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society

## January 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

### I. MEETING DETAILS

Date: 29 January 2024

Location: Zoom

Time: 6:00 p.m. CST

Officers Present:

President: Heather Harroun

Vice President: Diane Derganz

Secretary: Cari Rusnak

Treasurer: Jackie Westhoff

Immediate Past President: Darrin Lett

### II: BUSINESS MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Board meeting called to order by Heather Harroun at 6:02 p.m. 10 people were present via Zoom.

### III: OLD BUSINESS

Secretary Minutes

December Board Meeting minutes written by secretary Cari Rusnak and were emailed to members. Cari would like to amend these minutes so the header says "December 2023 Board Meeting Minutes" *Motion to approve the December Board Meeting minutes as amended was made by Jackie Westhoff and seconded by Darrin Lett via email. Motion passed via email.*

Treasurer's Report

Jackie Westhoff said that she received a check from the Muscatine Master Gardeners in the amount of \$13.40 - their share of the pavilion rental for the May plant sale. This is their  $\frac{1}{3}$  share of the rental cost.

Nancy Rash said that we need to make available the final report that breaks down the expenses and income from when we hosted the Region 1 meeting. She said we should explain some of the information in that report such as how money was split between CVIDS and Region 1 for the auction. We do not normally post this report on the website, but we email it to members and discuss it at the February meeting. Heather Harroun said she will put it on the agenda and will print off several copies to

have on-hand for the February meeting. Jonathan Poulton suggested sending the report to Carol and Lisa at Region 1 so that other clubs can see how much it costs to host a regional meeting.

*Motion to accept the Region 1 Finance Report was made by Jonathan Poulton and seconded by Sue Kramer. Motion unanimously approved.*

## 2024 Committees

Heather Harroun said that committee chairs for the spring plant sale, fall plant sale, and summer garden tours were empty. She asked the board if they thought it would be better to ask for volunteers at the next meeting or if we should approach specific people to fill these empty positions. The board agreed that we should ask for volunteers at the February meeting and we can approach specific people if we do not fill every position. Darrin Lett said Diann Pavelka might be a good fit for organizing the garden tours since she knows so many people in the club. Heather Harroun said that she will create a sign-up sheet for the February meeting.

Heather Harroun shared information about the new Promotion Chair. The position is described as: "New Promotion Chair Position & Criteria: Will oversee promoting CVIDS locally, including paid advertising, if any, booths at various locations, signage for events. This person will recruit members to assist as needed. Needs experience with programs, and experience with print advertising preferred." Nancy Rash asked if we will present this to the club at the February meeting or if it is something the board will continue to work on. Heather Harroun said she will update the club's brochure with dates, locations, and current photos for the club to use until this position can be filled.

Heather Harroun said that Karmen Mullins agreed to be on the nominating committee, and she is waiting to hear back from two other people about open committee chairs.

## **IV: NEW BUSINESS**

### Club Plant Eligibility

Heather Harroun said that she and Diane Derganz both had to wait an extra year to receive a club plant because of the wording 'next year' in the club handbook. They would both like to change the wording to shorten the wait time for new members and to clarify when a new member will be eligible for a club plant. Jonathan Poulton thinks that making people wait two years or more for a plant is too much and would not be attractive to new members. He suggests changing the wording to something along the lines of: "To be eligible to receive a club plant in May, a member must have paid their membership dues for both the current year and the previous year by April

1st of both years. Example, to receive a club plant in 2024, dues must be paid by April 1st in 2023 and 2024.” The board agreed that this was a good change to make and asked Jonathan Poulton to email the wording to the board. Sue Kramer said that it would be easier to order club plants if we knew who qualified in November. Darrin Lett said that the hybridizers always give some bonus plants, and we can use those to help make up the difference between the number ordered and the number needed.

Darrin Lett thinks we should change the date dues must be paid to the club to December 31st for club plant eligibility (Example: paying dues by December 31st 2023 for the 2024 year). Cari Rusnak said that we have a November banquet and no December meeting, so it would be more difficult for people to pay their dues if they were due by December 31st. There was discussion about the date for dues, length of time before club plant eligibility, and general participation in the club to qualify for a club plant. Darrin Lett said that he is frustrated when people do the bare minimum and receive a club plant, and that other members have told him they feel the same way. Cari Rusnak asked how many people have done the ‘bare minimum’ and received a club plant in 2023. Jackie Westhoff said that in 2023, nobody qualified through only attending meetings via Zoom and making silent auction bids.

Sue Kramer said that a club plant isn’t a gift from the club, but rather a loan from the club so that we can learn how plants from different areas fare in our area of Iowa. They are a responsibility, not a gift or entitlement. Heather Harroun suggested changing the wording in our handbook from ‘receive a club plant’ to ‘assigned a club plant’, and the board agreed that this would be a good change to make. We should also make sure that club members understand that the care and evaluation of a plant is part of receiving a club plant, and Heather Harroun said that she wants to have more topics that focus on how to care for club plants at meetings throughout the year. Sue Kramer suggested writing up an agreement that is given to members along with their club plant that explains their responsibilities towards club plants they receive. Diane Derganz said that we should also make sure members understand that they must return any club plants in their garden if they leave the club.

*Motion to adopt new wording of the handbook to say, “To be eligible to receive a club plant in May, a member must have paid their membership dues for both the current year and the previous year by April 1st of both years. Example, to receive a club plant in 2024, dues must be paid by April 1st in 2023 and 2024.”, was made by Diane Derganz and seconded by Jackie Westhoff. Motion unanimously approved.*

#### Certified Plant Judges

Sue Kramer asked how many members of CVIDS are certified plant judges. Nancy Rash said that she thinks Karmen has completed the training and is a certified

garden judge, and she is interested in being able to see award-nominated plants in the gardens of CVIDS members.

#### Meeting Time

Heather Harroun proposed that we adjust the time for the February meeting. Right now, we have a potluck at noon and the presentation starts at 1. In January we said doors open at 11:30 for socialization, potluck at noon, and presentation at 12:30 so that people can leave earlier, but that meeting was canceled due to weather. It is agreed by the board to start the program at 12:30 at the February meeting.

#### Expense Form

Heather Harroun showed the board the expense form that she created. It will make accounting easier for the club and will increase transparency for club members. The form will be available for club members to see at the February meeting, and starting in February the club will require all expenses to use this form. The expectation is that every expense should be pre-approved by the club President, Heather Harroun, or the club Treasurer, Jackie Westhoff; anything not pre-approved by one of these people in writing may not be reimbursed by the club.

#### **V: ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Sue Kramer and seconded by Cari Rusnak. Motion unanimously approved. Business meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.*

Minutes submitted by Cari Rusnak 8 March 2024