

American Dahlia Society
Conference Call Minutes
June 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 pm EDT by First Vice-President Brad Freeman.

Present

Those on the call were: Brad Freeman, Ken Jensen, Don Dramstad, Terry Schroeder, Mac Boyer, Harry Risetto, Wayne Shantz, Eleanor Shantz, Bob Schroeder, Jerry Landerholm, Don McAllister, Linda Holmes-Cook, Arthur Haskins, Martin Kral, Steve Nowartowski, Rosemary Freeman, Ron Miner, Charles Miehm and Mark Oldenkamp

Harry Risetto stated that pursuant to the bylaws, Article 7, Section 2, Brad Freeman, as First Vice-President, will assume duties of the President at this meeting. It was also noted that Randy Foith has replaced Jerry Wittrig, but is unable to be on this call.

Remembrance

Brad Freeman asked for a moment to remember anyone that is seriously ill or we have lost since the last meeting. It was noted that Jean Knutson, from the Seattle area, passed away recently. Brad led us in a moment of silence

Minutes

Bob Schroeder moved and Don McAllister seconded to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2014 Conference Call, with the correction that in the report from the New Society Coordinator. Martin Kral visited the IGS in Hamburg last year. Lupita Trevino and Professor Muñoz from the Mexican Dahlia Association went to the German show. Ms. Trevino and Professor Munoz have made plans to come to the National in Tacoma this year. Motion carried.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Treasurer

Mac Boyer reported there is a total in all accounts of \$177,672. There is \$78,201 in the Ameriprise account, \$43,826 in the Vanguard account, \$28,289.89 in the Lake City account and \$27,355 in the CD. Of the \$177,672 in all accounts, \$93,358 is restricted and designated. The dividends from the A T & T stock is currently \$1,766, which is in the Ameriprise account. It was recommended to accept the Treasurer's Report subject to audit. Mac also stated that there are about 150 Judging manuals at Parrot Press so there is no need to reorder at this time.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Mid Atlantic

Charles Miehm reported the Mid Atlantic conference is getting hold of the Gettysburg Society to determine their current structure and who is the current President. Philadelphia had a successful tuber sale and National Capital also had a good sales season and have gotten some new members through their sales.

North Atlantic

Ed Bonci reported via email, the NADC members have been planting their dahlias for the 2014 season. The planning for the ADS Centennial Show, hosted by Mid Island Dahlia Society is progressing smoothly. The Eastern Trial Garden has seen a decrease in entries this year from previous years.

Pacific Northwest

Wayne Shantz reported they are grateful to the Portland Dahlia Society who have given money to the Wild River Dahlia Society for their second show.

Pacific Southwest

John Morton reported via email, the Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference will hold their judging seminar on July 19 in Monterey, CA. One of the topics will be the new OT definitions and how to apply them. There tuber sales were generally on the low side this year. It is felt that the drought conditions contributed to this. Many from PSDC are planning to make the Northern trip for the National Show; John hopes to see all there!

Federation

Brad reported that the Federation's National Show committee continues to work on the 2014 ADS Show are making progress and ironing out the details. They encourage all to attend; it should be a great show and is being held at a great venue.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bulletin

Brad Freeman reported the labels have been sent to the Publisher and the June Bulletin should be out soon.

Finance

Harry Risetto reported the Finance Committee recommends to continue including the envelope in the September Bulletin. .

Garden/Container Dahlias

Steve Nowartowski reported they will not have a garden dahlia evaluation this year as the supplier is unable to supply the product; hopefully next year.

Historian

Some articles have been sent in to the Bulletin.

Image Library

Claudia Biggs reported there is nothing new in the image library.

Insurance

Mac Boyer reported he has received checks from about one-half of the societies for their insurance payment. It is likely that we will exceed the premium again this year.

Judging Accreditation

Bob Schroeder reported the video on judging has been completed and is on the ADS website. There are three series to the video, each running about one hour. It can be downloaded or viewed from the Vimeo site. The advancing judging report was not included in the March Bulletin but should be in June's. There were several errors in the judging list that was printed and he is not sure how that happened; it is not felt that it is possible/reasonable to reprint.

Marketing

Steve Nowartowski reported he sent in his letter of resignation and marketing is just not working. He did recover the file, "Welcome to the Wonderful World of Dahlias" and will be putting it together for the Mid Island Dahlia Society to use as a fundraiser for the 2015 National Show.

Membership

Alan Fisher reported some societies have not sent in their membership information, although most have. There was discussion about setting deadlines and the consequences of not meeting those deadlines, including how those consequences may affect the ADS. It is felt that communication with the ADS Reps may help, but that often that is seen as an honorary position and not a working one. Alan will be sending out dunning letters in the next few weeks. After much discussion about societies not getting their membership in a timely manner, Linda Holmes-Cook said she would draft a proposal for membership renewals. She asked Rosemary Freeman to assist and Alan Fisher also asked to be a part of that group.

National Exhibit

Art Haskins reported we have National Shows scheduled through 2018. He thanked Linda, Sharon and Ron for getting up the section on future National and Regional Shows.

New Society Coordinator

Rosemary Freeman reported there is interest from a new society forming in New Brunswick, Canada. She believes they have some information, but will check with them and offer assistance in forming the new society.

Policy

Ron Miner reported he has not done anything on the Policy Handbook and would like someone to take it over.

Photography Contest

Martin Kral reported the rules for the 2015 Photo Contest will be in the June Bulletin. He also wants to get in touch with those who are offering photography at the National Shows to coordinate criteria for judging and advertising the ADS Photo contest.

Publicity/PR

Lois Ann Helgeson reported by email she submitted another international article to the Bulletin on Les Jackson.

Research and Education

Brent Grant reported by email the requests for “Growing Dahlias” quatrafold continue to come in and it appears to be a strong introductory tool for newer dahlia growers. Dr. Matt Taylor, Research Horticulturalist at Longwood Gardens, is preparing an article on fertilization of dahlias for one of the next Bulletins. Dr. Pappu has agreed to prepare a layman’s summary on the dahlia virus for an upcoming Bulletin. A local nursery reported they had broad mites contaminate their salt hay bales, which are commonly used to mulch dahlias.

Seedling Bench Evaluation

Roger Walker reported by email the applications to hold a bench evaluation at ADS-Affiliated societies will be mailed soon. All applications will go to the listed ADS Representative and they are asked to make sure the applications get to the correct person.

Special Awards

Jerry Landerholm reported he has priced the ADS bronze medals at \$5.55 each for the antique bronze and \$5.40 for the shiny bronze. He is recommending going with the regular bronze as we have previously. He recommends a three-year supply of 210 for approximately \$1,165.50. He received approval previously to order 12 silver medals for the Johnson Medal for approximately \$300. The total for medals will be about \$1465. There is a two to three year supply of the Hart, Dudley and Gulikson medals. He also presented that he has 49 shiny bronze medals and 10 silver ADS medals that have been given on special occasions or to special dahlia persons. Either of these could be used for presentation to international societies as one way to be more participative internationally.

Technology Resource

Don McAllister stated he is getting back up to speed with the things he does for the ADS and Colorado Dahlia Society. He has sent in a request for reimbursement for the computer he had to purchase, after his old one crashed. This will be dealt with at the end of the meeting.

ADS Business Partner

Brad Freeman reported this has the same issue as Marketing; there really isn’t much to market. He says there is only one ADS Business Partner.

Trial Garden

Ron Miner reported there is nothing new with the trial gardens, but that the number of entries may be down a bit this year

Website

Linda Holmes-Cook reported they continue to pick up members through their Facebook page. She encourages all to check out the online classification guide, which is now fully operational and 134 pictures have been added. They have also updated the Cream of the Crop and the Fab 50 and are continuing to add pictures. Sharon Swaney has agreed to do routine maintenance and updates on dahlia.org as well as to review and improve other website features. We will call in Servlet for support and they will bill the ADS at the hourly rate, as was done prior to them taking on the general maintenance. All are encouraged to look at the online Classification Guide and submit pictures if you have them. Both Linda and Ron are very thankful for Sharon's contributions.

ADS Representatives

Ken Jensen reported he has most of the President's list for the Canadian societies.

Don Dramstad requested having Charles Miehm added to the ADS Executive group. Don McAllister stated that an invite needs to be sent to Charles, which he will then need to accept, before he can be added. He will send the invite.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ADS 2015 Centennial Planning

Harry Risetto reported he anticipates having a rough draft of the publication for the last 50 years done by year end. He still needs input on the Symposium as to what we would like to see covered, how it would be funded and who would be the person to do the presentation. He will work out with the Mid Island Dahlia Society the timing for the Symposium. At this point, it looks like it may be Sunday night, after dinner. It was decided to have a Conference Call on July 13 to discuss the Symposium. Mid Island Dahlia Society is planning a spectacular weekend for the 2015 show. The funding is running well to keep costs down. There will be no cash awards.

International Affiliated Society Membership

It was suggested that we leave this item on the table. It is likely this will be an important part of our future and will likely be discussed at a Spring Planning Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Vice Presidents at Large

Brad Freeman sent out the list of current Vice Presidents at Large. There has been some feedback that this list is too large and that some people need to be removed. It must be published in the September Bulletin, so there is not a lot of time for discussion. A couple of additions and deletions had been brought up on email. **Terry Schroeder moved and Harry Risetto seconded to amend the list, adding those suggested in emails, removing those who are current Board Members and Regional Vice Presidents and those who are not current ADS members. The motion passed.**

Agenda for Annual Meeting

Brad Freeman stated the Federation of NW Dahlia Growers had received a request from Dr. Hanu Pappu to do a presentation at the National Show on the Virus Research. The Planning Committee felt it would be appropriate to have that at the ADS General Meeting. .

Request for Reimbursement

Don McAllister sent in a request to reimburse him for the computer he had to purchase as his had gotten some malware and in working to fix that issue, he was informed that it would be best to get a new computer as his would not last much longer. He submitted a receipt with a request for \$832.14 to replace his computer. **After much discussion, Harry Rissetto moved and Mac Boyer seconded to table the issue and to develop a policy before acting on this request. The motion passed.** It was felt that there really wasn't a precedent for this request and we need a policy to address any future requests. It was also stated that any action taken/not taken on this request is done with no precedence.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 pm EDT.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder
ADS Secretary