

**MINUTES OF THE AOS TRUSTEE MEETING,  
Minneapolis, Mn.  
Friday, May 2, 2014  
Sandra Tillisch Svoboda, President - Presiding**

**I. Call To Order:**

The president called the meeting to order at 10:33 CDT.

**II. Proof of Due Notice of the Meeting;**

The meeting was advertised in the January through April, 2014 editions of *Orchids* magazine. In addition, the Orchid Society of Minnesota has actively publicized the meeting over the last two years.

**III. Roll Call:**

**Officers present:** Sandra Svoboda, Fred Missbach, Tom Etheridge, Jean Hollebone, Peter Furniss, Chris Rehmann,

**Trustees present:** Jeanne Buchanan, Mario Ferrusi, Harry Gallis, John Ingram, Nancy Mountford, June Simpson, Frank Smith, Carol Zoltowski

**Excused:** Ron Giles

**Absent:** Jeff Bradley, Max Thompson, Fred Clarke

**Staff present:** Ron McHatton

**Honorary VP:** Tom Sheehan

**Visitors:** Howard Bronstein, Susan Wedegaertner, Bill Zimmerman, Loretta Rehmann, Lynn Fuller, Juan Felipe Posada, Carlos Fighetti, Aileen Garrison, Gail Furniss, Lowell Jacks, Lois Holmes, Scott Ware, Greg Filter, Frank Slaughter, Jr., Taylor Slaughter, Jennifer Reinoso.

**IV. Declaration of Quorum**

A quorum was declared.

**V. Approval of Minutes of April 17, 2014 Board of Trustees' meeting Jean Hollebone**

The minutes had been distributed earlier ( Attachment1). Since no comments were received,

**upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to APPROVE  
the minutes of May 17, 2014.**

**VI. Report of the President**

**Sandra Tillisch Svoboda**

The president thanked the AOS for an amazing two years full of challenges and opportunities, and outlined the highlights and successes of this time ( Attachment 2). In

closing, she challenged members to consider new ideas and proposals, and to be proactive. It takes courage to map out a path forward, she said, but we must all do it to make AOS a better organization than when we came into it.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to ACCEPT  
the President's Report.**

**VII. Report of the Chief Operating Officer**

**Dr. Ron McHatton**

The COO presented his report (Attachment 3).

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to ACCEPT  
the report of the Chief Operating Officer.**

**VIII. Finance Committee**

**Pete Furniss**

The Treasurer presented his report (Attachment1).

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to APPROVE  
the TREASURER'S REPORT.**

**a. Budget**

The Treasurer referenced the Wednesday Planning Session where the budget for 2014-5 was discussed in detail. The Treasurer confirmed that the proposed expenditures (related to anticipated legal fees and the marketing plan which gives the AOS an opportunity to grow), will be closely monitored. The Treasurer asked for approval of the draft budget.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to APPROVE  
the PROPOSED BUDGET for 2014-5.**

**IX. IT Committee Report**

**Greg Filter**

The IT Committee Report ( Attachment1) was discussed in the Planning session . Greg Filter reiterated the two key goals of the Committee and asked for a motion to accept the IT report.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED unanimously to ACCEPT  
the report of the IT Committee.**

**X. Membership Committee Report**

**Frank Smith**

Frank Smith reminded Trustees of the Membership Report developed a year ago under the direction of Jeanne Buchanan and the concurrent investigation of membership strategies at FTBG. This led to the very successful expiring membership initiative which has been effective in increasing the number of membership renewals. In January the Membership and Affiliated Societies Committees were merged by the Board of Trustees. Frank Smith announced that Laura Newton is the new chair. He thanked Jeanne Buchanan for all her hard work on this file, and the President thanked Frank for the very effective donation of his office personnel to help with the membership renewals.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to ACCEPT  
the MEMBERSHIP REPORT.**

**XI. Judging Committee Report**

**Harry Gallis**

Dr. Gallis presented the report of the Judging Committee (Attachment 4). The personnel recommendations were discussed in Executive Session and approved as indicated in Sections a-g. below; the remaining personnel changes did not require Trustee approval and are found in the Judging Committee Report.

Rewording of the Robert B. Dugger Odontoglossum Award and the Milton Carpenter Intergeneric Oncidiinae Award was presented for approval and is also contained in the Judging Committee report (XA and XB).

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees unanimously APPROVED  
the revisions to the Robert B. Dugger Award criteria.**

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees unanimously APPROVED the revisions  
to the Milton Carpenter Intergeneric Oncidiinae Award.**

The proposal to update AOS publications and the electronic awards records in Orchids Plus/AQPlus with current RHS and WCSPFO terminology was presented. The proposal was amended to remove the phrase "*as feasible by staff*" in the third sentence. Greg Filter agreed to develop a mechanism for keeping the historical (parent) data preserved so that it will not be lost and can be matched to current nomenclature.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees unanimously APPROVED the amended proposal**

**to update AOS print- and web- based publications  
with current RHS and WCSPF terminology.**

The following personnel changes were approved by trustee vote:

**A. Elevation of Certified Judges, Probationary to Certified Judge, Accredited:**

David Kessler	Atlanta
Carol Klonowski	California Sierra Nevada
Curtis Gean	California Sierra Nevada
Cheryl Erins	Chicago
Anne Hill	Hawaii
Jeff Bagshaw	Hawaii
Peter Wiggan	Hawaii
Monica DeWitt	Pacific Northwest
David Edgley	Pacific Northwest
Ben Rostrom	Pacific Northwest
Nancy Augustine	Pacific South

**Upon a motion made and seconded, the Trustees VOTED  
to APPROVE the elevation of the above  
from Certified Judge, Probationary to Certified Judge, Accredited.**

**B. Elevation of Students to Certified Judge, Probationary:**

Barbara Barnett	Atlanta
Michelle Dobard	Pacific South

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Board VOTED to APPROVE the elevation of the above  
from Student to Certified Judge, Probationary**

**C. Accepted as Students in these Centers:**

Chris Aiena	Alamo
Steven Van Kampen-Lewis	Alamo
James Curtis	Carolinas
Anthony Curtis	Carolinas
Jayne Holt	Northeast
George Iannetta	Pacific Central
Kevin Witham	Pacific Central
Gin Gan	Pacific South
Elizabeth McAlpine	Toronto
Andriananjamanantsoa (Tahiana) Notahianjanahary	Toronto (Montreal)

Judy Mezey

West Palm Beach

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Board VOTED to ACCEPT  
the above as Students**

**D. Request for change in status to Senior Judge:**

Jan Ragan	Florida-North Central
Diane Davis	Florida Caribbean
Jose Exposito	Florida Caribbean
Kurtis Iwata	Hawaii
Alice Barrios	Houston
James Huffman	Pacific Northwest
Lois Huffman	Pacific Northwest

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Board VOTED to ACCEPT  
the change in status to Senior Judge**

**E. Request for change in status from Senior to Accredited Judge:**

No nominations were received.

**F. Request for change in status to Retired Judge:**

Dixie McCulloch	Cincinnati
Dr. William Sakai	Hawaii

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Board VOTED to ACCEPT  
the change in status to Retired Judge**

**G Request for change in status to Judge Emeritus:**

Julius Klehm	Houston
(see JC Report; Attachment A)	
Inge Poot	Toronto
(see JC Report; Attachment B)	
Peter Poot	Toronto
(see JC Report; Attachment C)	

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Board VOTED to APPROVE the change in status**

**of the above to Judge Emeritus**

**H. Request for change in status to Retired Judge Emeritus:** None

**I. Termination for cause:** None

The remainder of the Judging Committee's Report can be found in Attachment 4.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Board VOTED to ACCEPT  
the report of the Judging Committee**

**XII. Research/Conservation Committee Report**

**Carol Zoltowski**

Carol Zoltowski indicated the newly amalgamated Research/Conservation Committee has had its first meeting and that 16 members of the former Committees have agreed to continue and will be meeting monthly via an e-mail forum. The Committee is actively preparing a work plan which will be presented at a future BOT meeting. One of the concerns of the Committee members is the lack of dedicated funds to support Conservation. The Chair asked the Board for approval to develop a proposal to raise monies for a temporarily restricted fund to support conservation projects approved by the Board . The Committee also plans to investigate the potential of aligning goals and objectives with other conservation based organizations.

**Upon a motion made and seconded, the Trustees VOTED  
to SUPPORT the request of the Research/Conservation Committee  
to DEVELOP A PROPOSAL for the raising of funds to support Conservation  
projects, and to DESIGNATE any funds  
so raised to the temporarily restricted net assets Conservation Fund**

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to ACCEPT  
the REPORT of the Research/ Conservation Committee**

**XIII. Other Reports**

**Committee Chairs**

The remainder of submitted committee reports have been filed (Attachment 1). *Note: The Board can ask for a report from any of the following committees and it will be placed on the agenda for full discussion.*

- |                           |              |             |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------------|
| a. Education Committee    | Bev Tall     | (No Report) |
| b. Publications Committee | Greg Allikas |             |

c. Public Relations Committee	David Toyoshima (No Report)
d. Special Funding Committee	Jennifer Reinoso (No Report)
e. World Orchid Conference Trust Report	Peter Furniss
f. Library/ Archives Committee	John Ingram (No Report)
g. Governance Committee Report	Mario Ferrusi (No Report)
h. Finance and Administration Report	Gladys Garcia Greenberg

**XIV. Unfinished Business**

**a. Status of Employment Discrimination Claim Ron McHatton**

Ron McHatton reported that an AOS volunteer filed an Employment Equity Discrimination claim which has been dismissed by the Department of Labor. The individual has 90 days to file a federal law suit of which 21 days have passed. AOS will monitor the status of the case. If a law suit is filed, it will be turned over to the AOS insurance adjustors.

**b. Update on Fall Meeting Frank Smith**

Frank Smith gave an update on the plans for the 2015 fall meeting in Orlando which is coming along well. Speakers, judges and volunteers are in place. Physical arrangements are well in hand. A deposit on hotel rooms has been paid, courtesy of Frank Smith . The Portland Orchid Society has confirmed they will host the Spring 2016 meeting and the San Marino County Orchid Society is prepared to host the fall 2016 meeting.

**XV. New Business**

**a. Sun Bulb Endorsement Ron McHatton**

The collaborative marketing agreement with Sun Bulb expires on December 14, 2014. The COO presented a draft agreement for renewal of the contract to December 31, 2016 ( Attachment 1). In exchange for advertisement of their ( listed) products, AOS would receive \$8000 per annum in quarterly payments. After discussion and

**upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to APPROVE  
the contract for continued endorsement of Sun Bulb  
for an additional 12 months**

Dr Gallis raised the issue that vendors, in general, are having a difficult time and that the AOS has not focused their attention on the interaction of vendors with the AOS. he suggested Trustees need to determine how to improve this partner relationship. Several possibilities were identified. After discussion,

**upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to investigate vendor- AOS interactions,  
in order to determine how to improve the relationship.**

**b. The Art Needlepoint Company (ANC) Proposal**

**Ron McHatton**

The Art Needlepoint Company (ANC) sells needlepoint canvases derived from licensed art including florals and botanicals which account for approximately 30% of their annual sales. The ANC has proposed to the AOS that in exchange for recurring advertising of ANC in AOS publications, the ANC will donate 10% of all sales (not just orchid kits) from ANC's website or phone associated with the code AOS, to the AOS. Advertising by the AOS would include notice of this 10% donation. The proposal (Attachment1) also includes an option for the AOS to develop its own line of products. The proposal was received with interest, and after discussion,

**upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees AGREED to request the COO  
to INVESTIGATE THE PROPOSAL further  
and report back to the Board.**

**XVI. Executive Session;**

The president called for a motion to go into Executive Session, to discuss nominations for major AOS awards, to discuss the recommendations of the judging committee with regard to judging personnel ( results reported in section XL). Jeff Bradley also requested an opportunity to address Trustees in this session.

The president reminded Trustees that all such discussions in the session remain confidential, and must not be discussed outside the Session.

**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the Trustees VOTED to go into Executive Session.**

The Trustees entered Executive Session at 1:15 CDT, and ended the Session at 1:55 CDT.

The results of the Session are as follows:

- Trustees approved several awards, to be presented at the Spring Meeting of members, the following day (May 3, 2014).

-Jeff Bradley, Trustee, addressed fellow Trustees regarding his concerns and position relating to specific temporarily restricted funds held by the AOS.

- approval of the JC recommendations, reported in full in XI a-g.

**XVII. Adjournment**

There was no additional business, the President called for Adjournment.



**Upon a motion made and seconded,  
the TRUSTEES VOTED to ADJOURN.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:05 CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Hollebhone,

Secretary.

May 14, 2014

**Attachments:**

**Attachment 1:** Trustees Handbook for the Spring Meeting



trustees  
backgrounder Final Sp

**Attachment 2:** The President's Report



President's report  
5-2-14.pdf

**Attachment 3:** The COO's Report



COO\_Report\_spring\_  
2014.docx

**Attachment 4:** Judging Committee Report ( updated)



Spring 2014  
Minnesota JC Final (2)

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