

San Diego County Orchid Society
Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting

Date: July 09, 2020

Location: Zoom, a digital conferencing app

Meeting called to order at 7:08 PM

Attendees:

Deborah Halliday	President
Stewart Walton	First Vice-President
Myra DeTate	Treasurer
David Vandebroek	Secretary
Sima Perkins	Director-at-Large
Jack Schaefer	Director-at-Large
Kay Klausing	Past President

Excused:

Carey McCoy	Director-at-Large
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With 7 board members present, a quorum was established.

Welcome New Officers and Returning Directors

President's Comments

- Debby welcomed everyone onto the board and gave some introductory remarks about the upcoming term and noted some personal goals for the upcoming year.

Treasurer's Report

- Myra presented the Treasurer's report. The usual discussion followed.

Next General Meeting

- Stewart led discussions on our next General meeting Speaker. Fred Clarke will be speaking on *Cattleya Mossiae*. Alex Nazden of POS made this reservation; Stewart will reach out to Alex to coordinate introductions. Alex has suggested that the SDCOS and the POS alternate payment of speakers as we are 'splitting' them with our joint meetings. The board agreed this was a good plan. Kay suggested we reach out to some speakers who live very far away, taking advantage of the fact that we are having remote meetings now to bring in people who would otherwise have prohibitively high travel costs.
- Stewart reached out to Tom Biggart and Ron Kauffman to identify speakers who might be willing to speak to our society who are far away. He would like to know anyone we know who might be able to talk. Debby notes David Brown keeps a list of speakers he would love to hear. Debby noted that we will plan to continue to host combined meetings with the POS as long as we're doing zoom meetings. There was general agreement to this plan.

Discussion Items

• Zoom Meeting Review

- Debby led discussions reviewing how people thought the last general meeting went. The consensus was that people felt it went well. The plant forum was successful and the board felt we should continue to have Debby lead this. There were some latency/bandwidth issues that people experienced and we noted that we need to ensure that speakers have a good enough internet connection before presenting to the society. Additionally, it was noted that it would be a good idea to do a trial Zoom runthrough with speakers if they are willing.
- Stewart suggested that we recap the most recent speaker in the newsletter and is willing to compose that article, in addition to his usual Main Speaker article, for the next newsletter.
- It was suggested that we run an article in the next Newsletter and post to the website an article explain to people how to use Zoom. Jack said he might be able to take some pictures and will be able to draft a tutorial. Debby volunteered to help.
- The Board discussed possible ways to include our members without computers. One member noted that they know of a group where all members without a computer gather in one spot with someone who has a computer and share the screen. Jack noted that the full Zoom invite includes call in numbers, which allows people to call in with just audio.
- The possibility of recording our speakers was broached and denied. Stewart wanted to know how to solicit from the membership what topics they were interested in. David suggested a NL article. Kay noted that we recently conducted a membership survey and volunteered to pass the results to Stewart. Further suggestions for improvements were solicited, none were forthcoming; it was noted the biggest potential improvement for all of us will be additional experience and that this 2nd meeting went better than our first.

• Culture Classes

- Debby led discussions on what culture classes would look like during our remote meetings. It was suggested that if a presenter wanted to use a webcam, they would need to test it with a Board member prior to the class. There was general agreement that PowerPoint would be a good way to have presenters lead the classes, rather than live demos, but that we should leave it up to each individual presenter to decide. Further discussion followed with respect to what kinds of things should be discussed in culture class, how the Board would ensure that the information presented was accurate, and when we should offer culture classes.
- Ultimately, the Board decided that we should have our culture classes the day after our general meeting; these Wednesdays will often align with the POS's usual meeting time, creating an opportunity for more people to join, as the SDCOS and the POS will share culture classes as well.

• Finance Committee President Needed

- The Finance Committee needs a new President. Usually that president is the immediate past president. The Board asked if Kay was willing to fill that role and he agreed.

• Plant Fair Suggestion from Species Group

- The Species Group had discussed having some kind of plant fair or plant exchange and sale. The Board discussed this but noted that such gatherings may presently be illegal in San Diego, even if socially distanced. It was noted that if any money changes hands, then this would be considered retail and we would need to take into account all rules and regulations that the county mandates for retail openings. It was noted that we could arrange a large online auction/sale if we wanted and then have a group of people arrange plant deliveries. The Board agreed to table this idea for now.
- **Prado is Now Open. When Do We Go Back?**
 - The Prado is now open. The Board needed to consider when to resume in person meetings. There was general agreement that, regardless of the Prado being open, we want to continue to host Zoom meetings.
 - Time was spent some time discussing the general COVID situation. Stewart suggested we advertise membership on Facebook since now ppl may come and join our society from much further away – we might be able to expand our membership this way. Jack notes that near our front page we should have an article stating the BD’s position on reopening. Stewart agreed to take this on.

Old Business

As the old business largely relates to things that are relevant when we meet in person, the Board agreed to postpone discussion on these topics.

Scheduled Date for the next Board Meeting:

Thursday, August 6th, 2020, at 7:00 PM Via Zoom conferencing. There being no further business, Debby Halliday, President, adjourned the meeting.

Meeting Adjournment: 8:51 PM

Respectfully submitted,

David Vandebroek
Secretary