

Minutes of the AIS Board Videoconference, Wednesday, June 26, 2019

Present:

Jody Nolin – President, Affiliate Liaison

Andi Rivarola (15) – 1st VP, P.R. Social Media, Strategic Planning, 2020 Centennial, Finance,
Convention Liaison (temporary)

Michelle Snyder (15) – Secretary, Insurance

Jill Bonino (15) – Treasurer, Foundation Liaison, Finance

Gary White – Past President, Honorary Awards, Finance

John Jones - Registrar/Recorder

John Ludi (13) – Director, Publication & Sales

Claire Schneider (15) – Director, Recording Secretary

Dawn Boyer – Director, Advertising Editor

Gerry Snyder (15) – Director, Awards

Howie Dash (23) - Director, RVP Counselor

Janis Shackelford (15) – Director, Policy

Neil Houghton – Director, Image Coordinator, Iris Program Resources (digital)

Phyllis Wilburn – Director, Section & Cooperating Societies Liaison

Susan Driver (7) - Director

Susan Grigg – Director, P.R. & Marketing

Wayne Messer – Director, News & Notes, Exhibition Reports

Cheryl Deaton (15) - Youth, Photo Contest

Susan Boyce – RVP rep, RVP (11)

Doug Chyz - RVP (4)

Lorene Crone (7)

The meeting was called to order on Zoom at 5:04 PM PST.

A quorum was present.

1. **Motion 1:** to approve the minutes from the May 22, 2019, teleconference as posted.

Motion by Michelle Snyder and seconded by Susan Grigg. Motion passed.

2. **Motion 2:** to approve the minutes as corrected from the AIS Spring Board meeting 2019 in San Ramon, California.

Motion by Dawn Boyer and seconded by Jill Bonino. Motion passed.

Discussion: In the past there have been incidents of an affiliate club holding an AIS sanctioned Spring Show without having paid their annual affiliation fee. Or the fee had been paid but that information did not reach the RVP in time for scheduling a Spring Show. Michelle will discuss with Jody the coordination of information between exhibition privileges and the status of affiliate

clubs. On another topic, Michelle Snyder reminded us that she has all AIS job descriptions. The job descriptions are also on the AIS website and in the Iris Encyclopedia. To see them, go to “Library” then “AIS Publications.” Or search “job” and all the job descriptions will come up. If someone wants to update or change any of the descriptions, they should contact Michelle Snyder. There was discussion about who should control any editing of job descriptions on the new website. This discussion to be continued.

3. Website update – Jody Nolin

Jody and Andi Rivarola have been updating various sections of the website and claim that it’s easy to do. Training is planned for the team of people who will be keeping sections of the website up to date. Andi thinks we might see the new website up and running in two weeks. But a word of caution: the website is new and there might be a few problems. Links might not work as expected and information might be difficult to find. As website issues come up, they will be addressed as soon as possible. In the meantime, we’ll all be patient during the first few weeks while kinks are smoothed out of the new website.

Bryce Williamson will be the new Electronic Services Chair and Lorene Crone will be Vice-ESC, the assistant. Security of the new website is important. Request for changes and edits to the website should go through Bryce. Anyone who would like to be part of the Update Team should contact Jody or Bryce. Contact information for Bryce and Lorene will be available soon and they will be added to AISTalk.

John Jones, the temporary Electronic Services magician, received a well-deserved round of applause for his work with the old website, coordinating the Zoom meetings and answering all his emails in a timely manner. Thank you, Mr. John Jones.

4. Handbook for Judges update - Claire Schneider

The committee has met twice and produced drafts of chapter 1 through 5. When the committee has final drafts, these chapters will be sent to the appropriate people for review and suggestions. Next they will work on the classes of iris. Still in discussion are the issues of the size of the handbook pages and font. A suggestion was that hotlinks be embedded in the electronic edition of the handbook to quickly take the reader from topic to topic. Bonnie Nichols is leading the finalization. Jody Nolin and Claire Schneider assist.

5. The Board of Directors Award – Gerry Snyder

Motion 3: that the Board of Directors Award be reinstated in the *Handbook of Judges and Show Officials*, to read:

“This distinctive award is neither a garden award nor an exhibition award. This award is made by The American Iris Society’s Board of Directors to honor an iris which has not won a Dykes Medal, but which shows clearly in its progeny that it is among the greats of irisdom. The Board

of Directors Award, which is not an annual award, was established in 1972 and first awarded in 1975.”

Motion by Gerry Snyder and seconded by Jill Bonino.

Discussion: There were several questions. What would be the form of the award? A certificate, trophy, cash? The Board of Directors will vote for the award, but who would be permitted or expected to make nominations? And who or which panel or committee would do the vetting? John Jones can search his master data base of registered irises to document the number of times a particular iris has been named in the parentage of any registered iris.

Motion to table until July made by Gerry Snyder and seconded by Jill Bonino. Motion tabled.

6. Wister Medals update – Gerry Snyder

Sixty Wister Medals have been ordered and should arrive in less than a month. Once received, Gerry will immediately mail medals to previous winners.

7. Finance Committee update – Gary White

This committee is just beginning their work. The first item on their agenda will be the AIS investment policy. Members are Gary, Jill Bonino, Bonnie Jean Nichols, Andi Rivarola and Joshua Windsor. Joshua is from Tulsa and is an accountant.

8. Schedule of mid-year reports – Jody Nolin

In the past officers and committee chairs presented their reports twice a year: at the spring and fall board meetings. But a change in the bylaws reduced the fall board meetings to once every three years. Officers and committee chairs now will be expected to give their fall or mid-year report at one of the scheduled teleconferences. It looks like the premiere presentation at the October 23 teleconference will be the budget and the financial year end reports. This means that officers and committee chairs should choose a teleconference either before or after October 23rd for their mid-year report. Claire Schneider will post the schedule spreadsheet in AISTalk so the officers and committee chairs can choose an appropriate teleconference for their mid-year report.

Jody will schedule a private executive session in October or November via Zoom which will be in addition to the regular schedule of teleconferences. The agenda will include honorary awards.

Michelle Snyder will expect to receive a digital copy of each mid-year report two weeks before that report is to be presented at its scheduled teleconference. To be determined is who will be posting the mid-year reports on the website and in AISDocuments.

The new directors will join the board at the fall meeting. To be determined is which meeting will serve as the official fall meeting, October or November.

9. Other business

- Howie Dash gave an update on the issue of registration versus registration plus introduction. At a previous meeting, the AIS Board approved a change in exhibition rules, that iris entered in exhibitions only need to be registered, not introduced. The question now is, should introduction also be dropped from the garden awards? Howie wrote to six hybridizers asking that very question. Three were against removing introduction as a requirement for a garden award and three were in favor. The point of contention is what constitutes an introduction? With the changes in the electronics world, hybridizers are moving away from paper catalogs to using websites and social media to advertise their irises. The Awards Committee will continue to work on this issue.

- John Jones reported that he has received complaints from AIS e-members who cannot read their online Bulletins on mobile devices. The problem seems to be that Adobe Flash Player is a required app for reading the Bulletins online. But because Flash Player has security issues, most mobile browsers disallow it. John found that there is an upgrade available for the software that he uses to generate the online Bulletins that does not require Flash but uses HTML5. The cost is approximately \$900, comes with support for one year and provides a second user license.

Motion 4: That the board authorize the purchase an upgrade to the eMagCreator software for \$898 to replace the version that uses Flash Player.

Motion by Gerry Snyder and seconded by Howie Dash. Motion passed.

Discussion: Someone will have to reprocess all the old Bulletins using the new software.

- The 2020 Convention Committee is still hard at work. The registration form and schedule will be posted soon. Thank you for your patience.

- The next videoconference will be July 24 at 5 PM PDT.

10. Adjourn at 6:11 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Claire Schneider