

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY (AIS) ANNUAL FALL MEETING
October 24, 2020
General Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and welcome

Meeting called to order at 10:35 am by the Regional Vice President Kathryn Mohr. Everyone was welcomed. Acting secretary will be Kate Brewitt. Neil Houghton thanked for all his hard work setting up the meeting.

2. Roll call: Officers, Affiliate Chairpersons. Committee Chairs

Kathryn Mohr – RVP and President

Vaughn Sayles – Treasurer, Membership Chair

Kate Brewitt – Acting Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Linda Knipper – Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) President

Cara Hutchings – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) President

Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) President

Marilee Farry – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) President, Awards & Exhibition Chair

Wendy Roller - Judges Training Chair

Neil Houghton – Technology Consultant

Other Attendees

Dave Baerhre, Joanne Bassett, Linda Baumgartner, Chuck Chapman, Ronna Feit, EJ Mattson, Donald Salhoff, Patricia Salhoff, Betty Schnellinger, Jan Smith.

3. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 5, 2019 General Membership Meeting. Kathryn Mohr declared the minutes approved as circulated

4. Affiliate chairs – affiliate chairs did not have any additions to the reports circulated.

5. Committee Reports

a. Archives

Dorothy Stiefel had nothing to report

b. Awards & Exhibitions

Marilee Farry reported that due to COVID-19 there were no accredited iris shows in the region in 2020. The Board of Directors agreed to maintain the 2020 Show rotation and award choices for the 2021 shows.

ONIS – The Ruth V. Blenis Award – show date pending

CHIS – The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award for Historic Iris – show date pending

GRIS –The William McGarvey Beardless Iris Award – show date pending

WNYIS –The Magdalen Award – show tentatively set for June 5, 2021.

The Irwin A. Conroe Distinguished Service Award was presented to Neil Houghton.

c. Judges Training

Kathryn Mohr read a summary of Wendy Roller's JT report pending her joining the meeting.

d. Bylaws Committee

The committee had two primary goals:

- i. Add videoconferencing and all electronic communication to the official methods by which Regional meetings can be held.
- ii. Make the term limit for the office of secretary consistent with the treasurer's.

A report with proposed changes was submitted and accepted by the Board of Directors. Voting will take place during New Business.

e. Newsletter Editor

Kate Brewitt reported that the Spring 2021 edition would be out March 1st.

f. Treasurer's Report,

Vaughn Sayles thanked WNYIS for this year's contribution to Region 2. It was also noted they would be making a contribution in honor of Judy Tucholski-Zon.

g. Membership

Vaughn Sayles reported that the Region had one new member since his report was circulated.

h. Technology Consultant

Neil Houghton had no additions to the report circulated.

i. Webmaster

Kate Brewitt reported that the Region 2 website had 18,670 visits this year. She will continue to look for a new website host.

j. Youth Committee

Kathryn Mohr reported that this committee is in need of a chair. In the meantime she asked that each affiliate report on any youth activities for the newsletter.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business from the floor.

New Business

1) Budget for 2021

Vaughn Sayles reported that 2021 budget would remain unchanged from 2020.

Motion made by Cara Hutchings to accept the proposed budget as presented. Motion carried.

2) Vote on officers

On behalf of the Nominations Committee, Cara Hutchings presented the selected nominations for the 2020/2021 Officers' positions,

Kathryn Mohr – Regional Vice President (RVP)

Neil Houghton– Assistant RVP

Vaughn Sayles – Treasurer

Kate Brewitt - Secretary

Since there were no nominations from the floor, Kathryn Mohr declared the nominees elected by acclamation.

3) Judges Training

Wendy Roller summarized the JT activities for 2020 as follows,

Janette Smith, will be listed as an Active Master Judge in 2021. Donna James and Maureen Mark have requested Retired Master Judge status. John Colley and Vaughn Sayles will be listed as Retired Master Judges next year. E.J. Mattson is stepping down as an AIS judge. We thank them for the combined total of 88 years of judging experience. Finally, Region 2 mourns the passing of Judith Tucholski-Zon on July 16, 2020 and Raymond (Sandy) Ives on October 13, 2020.

4) Vote on Bylaws

Article VIII, Section 2 – revised to include videoconference as a means for the Board of Directors to do Region business. Also revised to acknowledge different means for storing minutes of meetings.

Motion made by Cara Hutchings to accept the Bylaw Committee's proposed revision. Motion carried

Article X, Section 4 – revised to include 'roll call' voting during elections.

Motion made by Marilee Ferry to accept the Bylaw Committee's proposed revision. Motion carried

Article VI, Section 2 – revised to make the term limit for the Secretary consistent with the Treasurer's term.

Motion made by Cara Hutchings to accept the Bylaw Committee's proposed revision. Motion carried

Adjournment

Kathryn Mohr adjourned the meeting at 11:15 am.