

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY (AIS) ANNUAL FALL MEETING
MINUTES FOR THE GENERAL MEETING
OCTOBER 22, 2022 AT 10:30 AM VIA ZOOM

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:33 am by Neil Houghton RVP. Everyone was welcomed. Neil thanked everyone for the support provided during the past year.

2. Attendance

Neil Houghton – RVP and President, Technology Consultant

Cara Hutchings – Assistant RVP, Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) President

Kate Brewitt – Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) President

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

Wendy Roller – Judges' Training Chair

Other Attendees - Joanne Bassett, Chuck Chapman, Kathryn Mohr, Ben Morris, Don Salhoff.

Absent - Linda Knipper – Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) President, Annette Kuhn – Treasurer, Dorothy Stiefel - Archives

3. Additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 16, 2021 General Membership Meeting. Kate Brewitt declared the minutes approved as circulated.

4. Treasurer's Report

Neil Houghton explained the Treasurer's Report in Annette's absence. As of October 1, 2022, Region 2 of the American Society Iris Society has \$9,399.49 on account. Since January 1, 2022, revenue totaling \$97.75 has been received while \$726.90 has been expended.

GRIS made a contribution to the Region after October 1, 2022. It is not included in this report. ONIS will contribute before the end of 2022.

A discussion on the budget followed. The need for an Awards budget of \$200 was questioned given changing attitudes towards trophies. This discussion was tabled in favor of a more in-depth discussion at a future Board meeting.

The Treasurer's budget was discussed. It was suggested that the \$2/month charge was possibly for a paper bank statement. Neil suggested it be investigated if the Region's not-for-profit status would exempt us from bank charges.

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

5. Audit Committee - Marilee Farry reported that the Treasurer's audit report was accepted by the Audit Committee.

6. Committee Reports - Reports were displayed during the meeting. Committee Chairs filed their reports with the Secretary. These are available upon request.

Archives – no report.

Judges' Training - Wendy Roller reported that she had nothing to add to the report published in the AIS Region 2 Autumn newsletter. Currently there are 8 Active Master Judges, 3 Garden/Exhibition Judges, 1 Candidate for Judgeship, and 11 Retired Master Judges.

Membership – Marilee Farry reported a revised number of 123 members as of today's meeting. This number includes four affiliate memberships and five organizational memberships.

The 2022 AIS Membership Drive resulted in 36 new Region 2 members. The breakdown was, from AIS sections: ASI – 1, HIPS – 8, SIGNA – 1, TBIS – 1, from affiliates: GRIS – 6, ONIS – 5, WNYIS – 13, NYC - 1 (no affiliate). All received welcome letters.

Newsletter – Kate Brewitt thanked those who submitted articles. She also requested that Region 2 members send her their old newsletters so they can be added to the Hager-DuBose Online Library on the AIS WIKI.

Wendy thanked Kate, on behalf of the Region, for her efforts.

Technology Consultant – Neil Houghton reminded everyone that the Zoom program is available for affiliates to use.

Webmaster – Kate Brewitt reported 2023's website expenditure will be contingent upon the timing of upgrades to the website program. Still pursuing details with HostPapa.

Awards & Exhibitions – Kathryn Mohr reported that Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) has selected the Magdalen Award (highest placed Median Iris) for their 2023 flower show.

Other awards as selected at the Board of Directors meeting are as follows,

GRIS - The Ruth V. Blenis Award (highest placed Tall Bearded iris).

WNYIS - The William McGarvey Award (highest placed Beardless iris).

ONIS - The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award (highest placed Historic iris).

Youth Committee - Neil Houghton reported that the Chair position is vacant and asked that if anyone is interested in this position to contact the new RVP.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business from the floor.

8. New Business

a) Budget was addressed during discussion of Treasurer's Report.

b) Show Awards - Marilee Farry reported that one show has been confirmed for 2023. WNYIS will hold its flower show on June 3, 2023. Marilee requested that the other affiliates contact her as soon as they decide upon their show dates.

Marilee Farry presented the Magdalen Award (highest placed median iris) to Wendy Roller for BB 'Brown Berry' exhibited by her at the WNYIS 2022 Flower and Perennial Show. Marilee also thanked Wendy for judging the show.

c) Vote on Officers - Cara Hutchings, Nominations Committee Chair, reported the following nominations for the 2022/2023 Officers' positions,

Cara Hutchings – Regional Vice President (RVP)

OPEN – Assistant RVP

Annette Kuhn – Treasurer

Benjamin Morris - Secretary

Since there were no nominations from the floor, Neil Houghton declared the nominees elected by acclamation.

9. Neil Houghton adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

Submitted by Kate Brewitt, AIS Region 2 Secretary