

**REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY ANNUAL FALL MEETING**  
**MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**OCTOBER 12, 2022 AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM**

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm with Regional Vice President, Neil Houghton, presiding.

2. Attendance

Neil Houghton – RVP and President, Technology Consultant

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

Annette Kuhn – Treasurer

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, Kathryn Mohr, Ben Morris, Don Salhoff

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

3. Additions/corrections to the minutes of October 5, 2021 and September 14, 2022 Board of Directors meetings. Neil Houghton declared both minutes approved as circulated.

4. Officer Reports

RVP Report

Neil Houghton thanked those who stepped in to help in the last few months. He also thanked everyone for their contributions to the Region.

Audit Committee Report

Annette Kuhn reported that the paperwork for the Audit Committee is ready for review. She will email it to all Affiliate chairs, asking one of them to assume the role of Committee chair.

Treasurer Report

Annette Kuhn reported that as of October 1, 2022, Region 2 of the American 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.

A budget for 2023 of \$2,129,00 was proposed. The Newsletter budget decreased by \$50, the RVP AIS Convention registration fee decreased by \$10, and the Treasurer's budget was increased by \$14. Annette to investigate reason for \$2/month bank charge to determine if it can be avoided.

Motion, as amended, by Neil Houghton to pay the early registration fee to the 2023 AIS National Convention for the RVP or his/her designee. This amount is not to exceed \$350.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Cara Hutchings to accept the Budget as proposed and present it at the General Meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

### Secretary Report

Kate Brewitt reported that no motions were made during the Board meetings held via Zoom between November 1, 2021 and September 15, 2022.

## 5. Committee Reports

Archives – Dorothy Stiefel - no report submitted.

Awards & Exhibitions - Marilee Farry reported that WNYIS held a show on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Wendy Roller will be presented with the Magdalen Award at the General Meeting. There was one virtual iris show in 2022 held by ONIS.

WNYIS will have its 2023 show on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. CHIS, GRIS, and ONIS have not finalized the dates of their 2023 shows. There are currently no virtual shows planned for 2023.

The Region 2 show awards for 2023 shows were selected as follows,  
CHIS – no selection made.

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).

Judges Training - Wendy Roller reported that 9 judges and 1 apprentice judge completed their three-year requirements. Two judges were granted exemptions to continuing COVID-19 restrictions. During the last year Region 2 judges earned, collectively, 16 hours of credit for in-garden judges' training sessions and 22 hours of credit for attending AIS classroom judges' training sessions held via Zoom.

Membership - Marilee Farry reported that there are 124 members of the American Iris Society residing in Region 2. This number includes four affiliate memberships and five organizational memberships.

The 2022 AIS Membership Drive resulted in 36 new Region 2 members. All received welcome letters. Marilee to draft new welcome letter which is more general in nature. Marilee would like to work with affiliates on ways to ensure AIS membership retention.

Newsletter - Kate Brewitt thanked those who submitted articles. A copy of the newsletter is uploaded to the AIS Iris Encyclopedia online library and sent to the Region 2 Archivist.

Technology Consultant - Neil Houghton reported the Zoom program is available for affiliates to use.

Webmaster - Kate Brewitt recommended the Board update the program being used for the Region 2 website. Kate will secure additional information on computer compatibility. Discussed increasing budget as timing could affect next year's expenditure. Suggested any overage be covered by monies from the Miscellaneous category.

### Affiliate Updates

Cara Hutchings provided updates on recent and upcoming GRIS meetings. Marilee Farry gave an update on WNYIS' recent meetings and displayed their new brochure. She is also working with Wendy Roller, JT Chair, on creating a program for Artistic Design certification.

### Nominating Committee

Cara Hutchings presented the Committee's recommendation for nominations for the 2022/2023 Officers' positions,

Cara Hutchings – Regional Vice President (RVP)

Assistant RVP – Position will remain open

Annette Kuhn – Treasurer

Benjamin Morris – Secretary

Motion made by Neil Houghton to accept the Nominating Committee report. Motion carried

### 6. Unfinished Business

Concern was raised that the proposed Membership budget for 2023 may not be sufficient to address mailings for membership renewals. Email was suggested as a cost-free alternative.

### 7. New Business

Budget and show rotation addressed during meeting.

### 8. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Submitted by Kate Brewitt, AIS Region 2 Secretary