

AFS Board Meeting of 10 February 2024

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M. Meeting was on Zoom.

Roll Call: Judy Bligh, Edwina Sauers, Janis and Rodney Bergquist, Barbara and Don Helsel, and Ron Monnier, joined our meeting on Zoom.

Review Minutes: The Board reviewed and accepted the minutes from 18 August 2023 meeting and Annual Meeting of 14 October 2023.

AGENDA:

OLD BUSINESS:

a. 2023 Annual Meeting: The Board discussed how much work the Sebastopol Branch members had done and how disappointed everyone was that so few AFS members attended. The Board questioned if holding future Annual Meetings is worth the work and expense. The board considered not having a meeting every year or in conjunction with another event. Board tabled this item.

b. Website: The new AFS website was discussed. We also discussed the importance of having all the fuchsia basic culture information available. Ron Monnier, Registrar, has the new introductions that will be added to the website after being published in the Bulletin.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. San Francisco Branch: Information has been received that the San Francisco Branch has disbanded.

b. Future Meeting Dates: See listing at end of minutes.

FORUM:

a. Janis Bergquist displayed the New Year's greeting card received from the Society of National Horticulture of France.

REPORTS:

a. Treasurer: Barbara Helsel reported on the expenses at the 2023 Annual Meeting. Because the Scholarship Fund has been inactive for many years, the Board voted to have the unused money transferred to the General Fund.

b. Membership: Judy Bligh reported the Sacramento Branch had sent in a group check for their membership.

c. Registrar: Ron Monnier reported on receiving 69 new introductions from 19 different hybridizers. The introduction certificates have been sent. He has some stationery expenses that he will send to the Treasurer. The Board discussed the use and availability of the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart. The Board also discussed charging a fee to cover administrative costs. Charging a fee would require exchanging Euros to Dollars, the decision was to not charge a fee.

d. Circulation: Rodney Bergquist reported that the January-March 2024 Bulletin was late for various reasons but will be in the mail soon.

e. Librarian: Mark Danner had no report.

f. Correspondence: Gay McWhirter had no report.

g. Pin Support: Edwina Sauers reported that after the Annual Meeting all the remaining pins were sent out.

h. Book & Merchandise Sales: Don Helsel reported that profit from the Annual Meeting was \$136.00.

i. Bulletin Editor: Rodney Bergquist report is the same as the Circulation Report.

j. Web Master: John Zimmerman had no report.

k. Website Fuchsia Consultant: Janis Bergquist reported that without a website during 2023 there were 0 emails to answer.

l. Photography: Judy Bligh announced 2023 Photography Contest winner was Don Helsel. He won Best in Show and First Place in Class A with his picture of 'My Solitaire'.

m. Historian: Janis Bergquist had no report.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:55 A.M. Recording Secretary Janis Bergquist

Board members visited the following branches during October, November, December 2023, and January 2024:

Janis and Rodney Bergquist visited the Sacramento and Sebastopol Branches.

American Fuchsia Society Board Meetings for 2024:

10 February (Conference call)

20 April (Conference call)

16/17 August Crescent City Mtg/Garden Tour

19 October Annual Meeting

(3rd Saturday due to Fleet Week)