

BONSAI SOCIETY OF PORTLAND
BOARD MEETING NOTES
December 5, 2016

The meeting was called to order by President Lee Cheatle at 7:04 pm.

Present were Lee Cheatle, Steve Leaming, Michael (Lime) Allen, John Thomas, Jan Hettick, Phil Harden, Patty Myrick, and Karl Holmes.

Also present was special guest club member Wayne King.

Visitor Wayne King

Wayne visited to share his thoughts about the Holiday Party. He feels that charging \$10 for the dinner in addition to asking people to bring a potluck dish is asking too much, especially for those members on a fixed income. He suggested holding the party at King's Buffet of someplace similar. The consensus of discussion was that if there are members who cannot afford to attend the party that Lee will be a point person to confidentially allow the club to subsidize the dinner for those people. It would be difficult for the club to hold the party at a restaurant because of the tree auction and raffles.

Minutes - the November minutes were approved as submitted here today.

BOARD REPORTS

Treasurer

John presented a Financial Statement for November 2016 showing a Net Revenue of (\$2,714.56).

Membership

Jan reported a total of 329 members.

Programs

January's meeting is the Annual Business Meeting. We will also have Josef Liebfried lecturing on bonsai pots. February's meeting will be Owen Reich (share with Seattle club.)

Lime introduced a new idea involving Ryan Neil. Ryan proposes to bring in his new professional video equipment and film lectures at our monthly meetings over

a seven month period. Ryan would charge \$1,000 per meeting, which would include Ryan's time and the video. More clarification and discussion to follow.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Auction - Toni Martin will take over as Auction Manager. We need to find someone to handle the raffle.

Newsletters - We will add the Auction and Raffle Managers to the list on the back page of the newsletter. Jan will check with Peter regarding whether or not the ads in the newsletter have been paid for.

Website Update - Karl presented a platform analysis showing that over half of the visits to our website are from mobile devices, confirming that we do need to update to a more modern platform.

There was discussion about the options for handling website transactions. Karl felt the best option is to move to Stripe.com. **It was Moved and Seconded that the club convert to Stripe for on-line commerce. The Motion passed unanimously.** Another issue is Member credential control (Login control). This option does not exist in S7. **It was Moved and Seconded that the club use a third party security feature for the upgraded website. The Motion passed unanimously.**

Hospitality - No new business.

Library - The annual inventory needs to be scheduled.

Mentorship - No new business.

Heritage - Lee will write a newsletter article regarding the Heritage program and bonsai watering relief.

2018 Rendezvous - The committee is ready to upgrade the web presence significantly and work on the schedule is progressing.

OLD BUSINESS

Milwaukie Center Lease - We should negotiate a new contract that includes all of the events we want to have at the Center, including all meetings (the mentorship meetings, the Fall Show, Holiday Party and 2018 Rendezvous). This will allow us to include all the meetings at a lower contract price rather than paying a higher price outside of the contract. The issue is tabled until the January meeting.

On-site storage shed - John has a choice of two display models, one is an 8' x 10' for \$2,000. It does need to be painted the proper color. The site at the Milwaukie Center needs to be prepared. The shed also needs to be insulated. John will drop off a check to them and schedule delivery for after the first of the year. We will put out a request to the club for help with the site prep and

insulation, and for moving items in from our current storage rental.

Purchase of small banner - The banner is ready for pickup.

Nominations Committee - Installation of new Board Members at the January meeting.

Location for Spring Show - Nothing new to report.

Yearout Juried Show - Nothing new to report.

Holiday Party - December 11, 2016.

Annual Meeting - January 24, 2017 - Board reports to be presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Cash Donations to Area Bonsai Clubs - It was suggested that with the surplus of funds we currently have we could make some donations to other clubs in the area that are struggling. The idea was tabled to Old Business for future discussion.

Resources List - on the website. Do we need a policy regarding who can be included on this list? Should be for local businesses. Should be kept current, if the business does not reply to requests for updates they should be removed from the list.

Request from John - when you send him an email with a request for reimbursement, please put in the Subject Line: Request for Reimbursement.

Future Board Meetings - January 9, 2017, February 6, 2017, March 6, 2017

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 pm

Respectfully Submitted: Patty Myrick, January 3, 2017