

**THE PLUMERIA SOCIETY OF AMERICA**  
**BOARD MEETING**  
**March 2, 2019**

The board meeting at the home of Ray Allison, 1310 Crocker, Houston, Texas 77019, was called to order at 11:42 a.m.

In attendance were:

- Ray Allison
- Mark Wright
- David Holloway
- Renee Riley
- Sharon Wright
- Warren Sloane

**Approval of Minutes**

Approval of the minutes from the January 5 board meeting and the January 15 general meeting were delayed until the April 27 board meeting as a quorum was not present to vote.

**Financial Report**

No financial report was presented as the treasurer, Lisa Berger, was not in attendance.

**Membership Report**

The PSA currently has 211 members (couples are counted as one) in the U. S. and 11 international members. There are 6 Lifetime members so designated for their contributions to the PSA. There are 14 U. S. members and 1 international member whose dues are in arrears as of March 1, 2019. Most of these dues were due in January, and the expiration dates on their newsletter labels are highlighted in neon yellow and a reminder note will be inserted in the mailing.

Month	New Members	Renewals
January	4	20
February	1	5
2 Month Total	5	25

**General Meetings**

The speaker for the March 12<sup>th</sup> general meeting will be John Ferguson of Nature’s Way Resources. John will speak on the “Importance of Soil and Mulch.”

For the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting, the board discussed having an interview with Emerson Willis as he has a wealth of knowledge to share. For the interview, written questions would be prepared in advance of the meeting so that Emerson will have time to prepare responses. Ray would conduct the interview and would relay to Emerson any questions that might arise from the audience. Ray will contact Emerson to see if he would be interested in this arrangement.

For the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting, the board discussed having a grafting demonstration by Lisa Berger. Ray will ask Lisa if she is interested.

For the October 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, the topic of preparing plants for winter storage was discussed. Ray will speak with George Hadjigeorge to see if he will present this information.

The questionnaire that Sharon presented at the January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to determine what topics members would like to see discussed at future meetings did not result in any new ideas.

Renee said that she always enjoyed presentations on plants other than plumerias. Sharon will contact Loretta O'Steen to see if she has any ideas as Loretta has contacts for speakers from the Galveston County Master Gardeners.

### **Liability Insurance**

The PSA will begin a liability insurance policy with Chubb when the current policy with Nationwide expires in May 2019. Liability insurance is required to book meetings with the city of Houston at the Cherie Flores Garden Center and it is also required for the plant sales. The current insurance premium with Nationwide is \$850. The quote from Chubb is \$613 for similar coverage.

### **Home Shows**

There was no report on home shows as Red O'Laughlin was not in attendance.

### **Plant Sales**

The plant sales will be on June 8 and July 20, 2019. Renee Riley will be the director of plant sales. David transferred boxes of plant sale materials to Renee. German, David and Renee will meet with Renee for a knowledge transfer at a later date.

At the September 29, 2018 board meeting, there was a discussion about having a celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the PSA in conjunction with the June 8, 2019 plant sale. Lisa has contacted about ten out of state sellers who are interested in selling (some of them are commercial growers). As discussed in last year's meeting, there was concern about space for ten additional sellers who will bring large quantities of plants, as the Bay Area Community Center is already near capacity with the current sellers. Further investigation with the Bay Area Community Center revealed that use of the parking lot for selling plants is not allowed, nor are food trucks allowed on the premises. The board did not vote on this issue as a quorum was not present.

## **Sales Tax**

If the PSA holds more than two plant sales in one year, then a sales tax report must be filed. The PSA is created solely as an organization described in Section 501 (c) (3) and exempt from taxation under Section 501 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding provisions hereafter in effect. The Section 501 (c) (3) status does not change if a tax report is filed.

## **Website**

Jeff Timme, the current webmaster, has indicated to Ray that he has not had time to make progress on the website. The board will actively seek a new webmaster.

### **Action Items:**

- Sharon will contact the webmaster for the orchid society website.
- Ray will speak with Karen Abrahams as her neighbor is a webmaster for the Datura Society website.
- Ray will contact his friend, April, who works at HP.
- Renee will contact some IT employees from her office to see if anyone has in interest in handling the PSA website.

Web hosting costs around \$600, whereas website refreshing costs are \$1000 - \$1500.

## **IPC 2021 (International Plumeria Conference)**

Mike Atkinson is seeking a commitment from the PSA to support the IPC 2021 in Balboa Park, San Diego. After the IPC 2016 in Naples, Florida, the PSA board voted to help support the IPC 2021 and float the seed money, which would be expected to be repaid.

The board decided that a review of the business plan for IPC 2021 would be necessary before making a financial commitment.

## **Future Board Meetings**

The dates for the 2019 board meetings are:

- April 27, 2019
- June 29, 2019
- September 28, 2019

## **Meeting Adjourned**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Newsletters were stuffed in envelopes and prepared for mailing following the board meeting.