

San Diego County Orchid Society
Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting
December 7, 2017

Summary

Attendees:

Kay Klausing, Debby Halliday, Tom Ketelaar, Myra DeTate, Bob Clark, Carol Kerr. Scott LaBouff was not present – Excused absent. Pedro Sanchez was absent.

The meeting was held at Balboa Park - Casa Del Prado Building, Room 104. The call to order came at 7:07 P.M. by Kay Klausing, President, via conference call.

Secretary's Report: - Tom Ketelaar

November 2017 Board meeting minutes had been approved via email.

Treasurer's Report: - Myra DeTate

1. Myra presented the November financials. There were normal comments. Debby made a motion to accept the November financials. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and approved.

2. By January 31, 2018, Myra will be providing to those vendors qualifying, the "1099-MISC" forms reporting 2017 revenue generated by orchid and orchid related sales at SDCOS sponsored events.

President's Items and Discussion points:

1. Board members having had ample time to review, study, and comment on the proposed SDCOS "Policy on Sponsorship" relating to prospective donors wishing to purchase advertising, give donations, and sponsorship of SDCOS activities, adopted the policy. Kay made the motion to adopt the policy as presented, it was seconded, voted upon and approved. Upon request, the policy is available for review by any interested party.

2. Historically the "Orchids in the Park" shows during the longer daylight periods have seen prospective visitors arrive at the Room 101 entry doors at closing only to learn the show has ended and turned around quite disappointed they were not allowed to enter. To remedy such situations, the Board has decided to extend by one hour for both the Saturday and Sunday sessions of the July show in the park to take advantage of the extended daylight available. This will give those prospective show attendees extra time to not only visit and view the displayed plants but also make purchases from the vendors present. The extra hour each day, of course, will require the assistance of Society members; it is the consensus of Board members that membership will step up and offer their time, talents, and skills to assist the visiting public. At this time the extended show times will apply only to the July show with possible future consideration of doing likewise for the fall show. The Board wanted to make the decision early enough to facilitate design, printing, required planning of marketing materials, and alert vendors planning to participate. Myra DeTate made the motion to extend the July show by one hour on both Saturday and Sunday beginning in 2018. The motion was seconded, voted upon, and approved.

3. Having had a period of time to consider the announcement made at the 11/07/17 General Membership meeting regarding the Society rewarding volunteers who willingly give their time, labor, dedication, and value to the Society, the Board approved a formal motion. Kay Klausing, SDCOS President, made the motion to allocate \$1,200.00 from the General Fund for the January 2018 Huntington bus trip to provide free rides to SDCOS members who have volunteered their time during the 2017 year and who, in November, signed up for the trip. The motion was seconded, voted upon and passed.

The stated amount surpasses the Board's authority to incur any obligation up to \$750.00 without approval of the members of the Society; this necessitates the approval of the SDCOS members. Therefore, the action to be taken at the January 2, 2018 General meeting will be Kay entering the motion as stated, the motion will be seconded, and then opened for discussion from the membership present before the action is approved or not approved through a vote of the members.

Other methods of rewarding and honoring the Society's volunteering members are being explored; the Board requests the assistance, ideas, comments, suggestions, etc. from members for increasing volunteer participation and rewarding that participation. These activities should stimulate more volunteers coming forward, adding their value to Society functions, and lessening the dependence upon the same core members; in turn, resulting in a thriving, giving, and educational organization present in the greater San Diego community. Some ideas were discussed among Board members such as a volunteer tracking log, tokens given to volunteers which would be turned in to 'purchase' items/events, methods of tracking volunteer hours, etc.

4. Many of the Board members expend considerable time not only in volunteering their time, labor, skills, and talents for the good of the SDCOS organization, but also expend travel hours, fuel, vehicle wear and tear, etc. to attend the meetings required to maintain a well-run organization. In order to lighten the travel load, the Board is researching means to conduct virtual Board meetings. All Board members have the proper technical hardware, Internet connections, and are generally savvy with today's available technologies. The Board members will attempt a virtual Board meeting for the April 5, 2018 date. Prior to the activity, the Board members will allot some testing/practice activities during regular Board meetings by bringing the necessary hardware to the Board meetings in Room 104 and/or conducting remote practice sessions. By ironing out the kinks and bugs ahead of time, precious Board meeting time will not be wasted. Kay and other Board members are researching various applications to use for virtual meetings.

5. At the present time, the position of SDCOS Board Second Vice-President is vacant. The Board reminds membership the "The January 2, 2018 Culture Class presenter will be Dave Hoffmaster speaking about and presenting a demonstration on "Pots and Potting Media". For new orchid enthusiasts this is a session you will want to attend! Newbies and more seasoned members always have questions about media, size of pots, media proportions, the proper steps, media components, snipping roots, soaking/wetting the plant prior to repotting to make roots flexible and less conducive to breaking, sanitation practices, etc.

6. For those wanting to read the Board and General Meeting minutes, a link has been placed in the newsletter leading to the SDCOS website. The link appears under the section "SDCOS society information ..." which is on one of the last pages of newsletter; click on the link of choice and 'magically' you will be taken to the proper item. Many thanks go to Jack Schaefer and David Eveleth for making this improvement function correctly!

First Vice-President Items: - Debby Halliday

1. The December General Meeting was the holiday dinner. Debby reported the event was a splendid success with attendees enjoying renewal of acquaintances, catching up with other members, a fine array of food selections, the reusable faux china plates, decorations, plant exchange, music, and, of course, members having their ticket number drawn to receive "The Holiday Plant" provided by the Society. (Did David Brown **EVER** have his ticket drawn? ... Rumor has it the two sections of his ticket had been given out in error.) The plant received by members will serve as a memorial to the hours enjoyed at our annual get-together. She also stated that expenses for the event came in under budget. If there were any negative comments, none were heard by any Board member but if negative opinions do exist, the Board requests they be brought forward. If you wish to remain anonymous, just drop your comment in the "Suggesting Box" on the front table near the entrance door, or contact a Board member and request your name remain as "Anonymous" to ease your discomfort in speaking up.

After the dinner and again at the Board meeting, Debby personally thanked Carey McCoy and her team for their assistance with the organization, food preparation, room preparation and setup, and all the other 'behind the scenes' activities required to offer an enjoyable experience for the membership. Also, to be thanked were those members remaining after the event to assist with the clean-up, clearing of tables, folding and storing of green table cloths, picking up remaining trash, washing of used dishes, etc. Without being told to do so, many of these member volunteers take it upon themselves to see what needs to be done and then 'Go to it!', these are the 'unsung' of the organization who create the living spirit of the SDCOS!

Debby also formally thanked the providers of the living plants for the "Holiday Plant Table", namely: "Andy's Orchids" – Andy Phillips and his team; "Sunset Valley Orchids (SVO)" – Fred Clarke and his team; "Casa de las Orquideas" – Karl Batchman & Nancy Batchman along with the others on their team. After most of the plants had been distributed to SDCOS members, there remained eighteen plants available for purchase to anyone wishing to obtain one or more of the remaining beauties for \$10.00 each. Once the announcement was made that plants were available to purchase and take home, those plants flew off the tables faster than spring snow in Florida.

There were several amateur photographers floating around during the holiday event and it is anticipated we will soon see some of the activities, costumed attendees, smiling faces, volunteers, holiday plant table, decorations, and other memories captured that evening.

The attendance at the SDCOS Holiday Dinner was eighty-three (83).

2. Debby will provide in the January newsletter information and details regarding the January meeting's main speaker, Tim Culbertson, who will be speaking about Masdevallias ("Kite Orchids") and will also provide items for the plant table.

Directors at Large Items: - Bob Clark, Carol Kerr, and Pedro Sanchez

1. Carol Kerr had attended a Balboa Park presentation relating to security issues in the park, activities park visitors and various societies and organization members should be aware of in staying alert and prepared, being cognizant of the nearest exit locations, staking out a room upon initial entry, being aware of surroundings, being observant/vigilant, reporting issues, and other practices. She obtained an illustrated poster and other brochures available for information and reading. They are available in PDF format upon your request. Carol will be placing the poster on one of the storage closet doors in Room 101 for SDCOS and other users of Room 101 to review.

2. Board members wish to remind SDCOS members and anyone attending a Society meeting feeling the need for escort to their vehicles after the meeting should speak up and make the request to any Board member. Kay will again be making the announcement at the January General meeting and listing this available 'service' on the agenda appearing on the video screen at the meetings and/or on the announcement board at the entrance.

3. The marketing materials for the 2018 Spring Show, "Orchid Mardi Gras", are quite striking, vibrant, colorful, and eye catching. Comments gathered to date from not only SDCOS members but other prospective attendees have been very commendable of the design, superior graphics, 'eye-punch' effect, quite full of pizzazz, beautiful, and other adjectives yet to be expressed. The Board is discussing creating a 'memorial' T-Shirt for purchase by members, family members, relatives, vendors, and the public wishing to add this memorable work of art to their wardrobe collection. What do you think? Carol Kerr has connections who may be willing to assist with creating/producing this piece of art.

Scheduled Date for the next Board Meeting:

Thursday, January 4, 2018, at 7:00 P.M. – Balboa Park - Casa Del Prado building, Room 104. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting Adjournment: 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Ketelaar
Corporate Secretary