

GREATER PITTSBURGH DAHLIA SOCIETY

General Meeting

May 22, 2021

In attendance: Mark Floyd (President), Heather Ramsay (Treasurer), Mike Ramsay, Gwendolyn Ramsay, Jennifer Floyd, John Williams, Judy Romano, Bob Romano, Randy Miller, Shelley Lipton, Mary Peterson and Katrina Dunderdale (Recording Secretary).

Absent: Harry Nordstrom, Diane Kavchak, Don McIlrath, Ron Berman.

The Board met on the lawn of the Southminster House (site of the pop-up sale). A quorum being present, Mark Floyd called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Minutes of Prior Meeting

John Williams moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the prior meeting (Second – Judy Romano). Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Heather Ramsay noted the Society sold 10 aprons additionally and the Society made a donation to Tree of Life in memory of Helen Sclarsky, a long-time member. She did not have a full treasurer's report available but would report the details at the next meeting. Jen Floyd moved to accept the Treasurer's report (Second – John Williams). Motion carried.

Judy Romano moved to dispense with the meeting formalities for the remainder of the meeting (Second – Jen Floyd). Motion carried.

Annual Show

Mark Floyd reported Harry Nordstrom received information from Trax Farms it would not host the annual show this year. Mark noted the annual show is scheduled for Saturday, September 18, 2021. The membership discussed possible alternative locations. John Williams moved the Society form a committee with Heather Ramsay, Judy Romano, Shelley Lipton and Harry Nordstrom, who will check out potential places to host the show and will report back.

Bylaw Change

Mark Floyd reported a bylaw amendment was proposed and discussed previously. The amendment would increase the amount the Board was authorized to spend, without prior approval by the General Membership, from \$75 to \$250. Jen Floyd moved that the General Membership approve the bylaw amendment to restrict the Board to spending no more than \$250 on any one item (Second – Judy Romano). Motion carried.

Dahlia Aprons

Heather Ramsay noted 10 aprons have been ordered so far. The aprons cost \$25 for non-members but members can purchase the aprons for \$15 each. She suggested the Society purchase 10 more aprons which would be available for sale in the future. John Williams moved the

Society purchase an additional 10 aprons, in addition to the 10 aprons recently ordered (Second – Randy Miller). Motion carried.

Free First Year Memberships

Heather Ramsay reported the Society has not charged new members for the first-year membership (\$10 value). She noted it was a good idea at the time last year but there no longer is a need to continue to practice. John Williams noted the \$10 annual cost is a good value as it includes the cost for an entire family. John Williams moved the Society discontinue making the first year of membership free (Second – Bob Romano). Motion carried.

Picnic

Mark Floyd noted the annual picnic is scheduled for Saturday, August 22, 2021 at the home of Bob and Judy Romano. More details will follow.

Closing

The General Meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. upon motion from Randy Miller (Second – Bob Romano). Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Katrina Dunderdale

**Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society General
Meeting Minutes October 12, 2019**

18 people
present

Pledge Of Allegiance

Moment Of
Silence

Last Meeting Minutes from August picnic
read

Minutes to approve 1. Don McIlrath 2. John Williams
Approved

Treasurer's Report

\$2830.62 balance, show awards and expenses paid
Motion to approve 1. John Williams 2. Katrina Dunderdale Approved

Nominating Committee
Report

Don McIlrath gave slate, no nominations from
floor

President- Drew Graham Vice President
Ron Berman Second Vice President
Mark Floyd Treasurer- Heather Ramsay
Recording Secretary- Cindy Graham
Corresponding Secretary- Diane
Kavchak

Board Of Directors: Katrina
Dunderdale Bill Kavchak
Randy Miller Harry
Nordstrom Mike Ramsay:
Past President Bob Romano
Judy Romano John Williams
Motion to approve 1. Don McIlrath 2. Flora
Williams Approved

Report from Judges Chairman: John Williams

Changes in show: Prince of Show will be singles and triples below Queen; Princess of Show will be

artistic categories such as photography, vases, baskets, arrangements, corsages

4 photography classes will be further divided- class 1&2 get special, class 3&4 get special, these two specials are judged against each other for court

Discussion: 1. As a society we need to learn about photography, but category entries must still be quality blooms and will be judged by a dahlia judge. 2. Want more clarity in what each photo category includes

Motion: Schedule 1. Professional photographer talk 2. Discuss wording of categories

Motion to approve 1. John Williams 2. Katrina Dunderdale

Approved

3. Katrina would like to give a special award for photography in 2020 4. Katrina talked about newsletter and needing input. Also trouble accessing info on website. 5. Club Flower for 2020: Windhaven Firelight, 2021: Windhaven Concord 6. Mini Show tomorrow at Settler's Cabin- Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, Oakdale, PA. Setup 10AM. If entering show, no fee.

Motion to adjourn 1. Don McIlrath 2, Clare

Vayda Approved

Meeting followed by Luncheon and Mahoning Valley Show

Photos

GPDS General

Meeting 02.15.2020

Meeting called to order by president Drew Graham at 12:11 PM with a pledge to the flag, followed by a moment of silence in remembrance of past members.

Recording secretary Cindy Graham read the minutes from the October meeting: motion to accept, Judy Romano, second Ron Berman, passed

Treasurer Heather Ramsay reported that we have a balance on hand of \$ 2384.01 Motion to accept, Don McIlrath, second John Williams, passed

Ron Berman discussed the outreach program to area garden clubs. Three talks are confirmed for 2020 so far - Garden Club a Mt Lebanon Library March 31, Garden Club of McKeesport at the rose garden in Renzie Park April 20 and the Murrysville Garden Club September 3. Possible additional engagement for the Moon Garden club and Peters Township yet to be confirmed. Member Charles Baker is requesting the program in Oakland, Md. For September. Ron mentioned that our speakers honorarium is \$ 100 for this year, and he and Drew brought in over \$300 to the club with past talks. The cost of printing for the handouts has thus far been borne by Ron . Judy Romano suggested that the club reimburse Ron for his efforts. In the past, tubers were distributed to all participants. This is getting to be a drain on the tuber supply-at the suggestion of Bob Romano, we will hand out coupons good for a free tuber at our April or May auction. This way, those with

enough interest in dahlias will have an incentive to attend the auction and meet the membership.

Katrina Dunderdale addressed the newsletter. She hopes to publish an edition monthly January thru May and would like suggestions on what people would like to see discussed. Also, if anybody has pictures that she may share. Currently the newsletter is emailed out to the membership and also is available on the website in the members-only section. Was suggested it be moved to the general tab for all to read.

Ron talked about the new website – a change was made to use Go-Daddy at a considerable savings - the new cost is \$ 381.60 for a 3-year contract. The new site is up and running and has a cleaner look than the old site. Don McIlrath motioned, John Williams second to get Ron paid, passed. We have gained 5 new members as a result of the website. The members-only section can be accessed by typing in your own email address and password: dahliadrew.

Old business :

Judy Romano asked if we should continue the mini show at Settlers Cabin, the consensus is YES. No news on establishing a dahlia display garden in the park – the staff seems to keep changing. Judy was asked by them if we would have a root auction there, they would want a percentage of the take. It was felt that we would not be interested at this time.

New Business:

Don mentioned the passing of Orvell Instant, dahlia grower at 98 years old.

John Williams presented Drew with the Lynn B Dudley medal from the American Dahlia Society for his introduction Netherton Cindy B-SC-Wh as the highest scoring new introduction for B size for 2019.

We were invited by the Greensburg Garden Center to participate in their May garden market where we could sell tubers / plants. As a non-profit, there would be no fee. Drew volunteered to man the booth May 1,2 and promote dahlias and hopefully add to the club's funds. Anybody with tubers to donate would be much appreciated.

Heather mentioned that starting 2018, first year membership was free. Motion Judy, second, Ron to continue that policy for 2020, passed

Discussion to support local businesses by a "shout out" on our website for growers, cutflower Farmers.

Bob Romano gave a brief talk on the new LED lights that have come down substantially in price for those looking to start seedling and cuttings to get a jump on the season. A couple of suppliers mentioned were Harbor Freight and Thousand Bulbs as less expensive sources. In recognition of his recent retirement, Drew presented Bob with a plant of a new variety of one of his favorite fruits, a Brown Turkey fig.

Motion to adjourn for refreshments, Judy, second Don passed followed by a DVD presentation

by John Williams highlighting the new 2020 introductions.

Cindy Graham Recording secretary