

**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