Minutes

Present: Alex Chang, Chen-Chung Chen, Alison Gallaway, George Hatfield (President-Elect), Clare Hermans (Secretary), Johan Hermans, William Riley (President), John Varigos (Treasurer), Yin-Tung Wang

Guests: Niggy Lee, Susanna Liu, Ahby Tseng, Lynn Wei (TOGA). June Tsai, Jerry Wang (Elite Professional Conference Organizer)

Absent: Munekazu Ejiri, Dennis Kao, David Ridgeway, Kiat Tan,

Meeting: Called to order at 6.00 PM EST (US)

Standing Reports:
1. President’s Report
   a. The Minutes of January 24, 2024, were unanimously voted on and approved.
   b. Will informed the Board that he, Alison, and George had met with the AOS legal attorney regarding repeated billing from Bermuda initially sent to the AOS, not WOCT, 1½ months following the closure of the Trust in Bermuda. The documents signed by the Trust and all parties involved stated that all debt and obligations of the Trust were settled. Nothing further has been heard from the attorney.
   c. Will stated that the meeting of the Board on February 29 after the Closing Ceremony would be a WOC Evaluation Meeting chaired by George. The new Host and TOGA would be invited to attend.
   d. Will confirmed that he had heard back from all the Sponsors/Associates and that they were all happy to continue with the Trust.
2. Treasurer’s Report.
   a. The current report was tabled. It was noted that the Tokyo Trophy cost had been paid. Post Meeting Note: The winner of the WOCT Trophy was Vanda lamellata ‘Miyara’, which was owned by Fumiko Nakajima.

Current Active Discussion:
1. WOC Committee Report - Taiwan 23rd WOC update
   a. Lynn presented a progress report. (See separate pdf.) The following was mentioned:
      a. TOGA confirmed transport would be arranged for the two late meetings on Monday, 26th, and Wednesday, 28th February.
      b. The Shuttle Bus timetables will be posted in all the conference hotels.
      c. The Judging Handbook and Shuttle Bus timetable have been sent to all the judges.
d. Photos of the show’s construction will be posted on the WOC website and Facebook pages. It was suggested that posting daily progress photos of the show would be a good idea.

e. Instructions for Conference Moderators have been sent. There are still some changes to the schedule due to late withdrawals.

f. Registrants have been sent their Registration check-in QR codes.

g. The tour to KBCC on 29th February is full. Due to a lack of demand, the other tours have been cancelled.

h. TOGA confirmed that there were no restrictions on mask-wearing, which was now by personal preference. About 50% wear masks.

2. Social Media.
   a. George reported good activity on the Trust’s Facebook page and encouraged everyone to share.

3. Site Selection.
   a. George thanked those people who submitted recommendations.
   b. The list of names was discussed, and an order of invitation was agreed. It was then voted on and approved.
   c. It was agreed that the final list should be checked for conflicts, such as lectures or judging before the invitations were sent.

Current Activity Pending Approval:
None

Current Activity Pending Completion
None

Miscellaneous Items
1. Will stated that the Board needed to consider how the Provisional WOC Committee would be formed and function after the WOC.

Future Activity (Documents Under Study no action required)
1. Reports from Committees
   a. Scientific & Education

Yin-Tung confirmed that the Oral Presentations and Posters judges were Alison Gallaway, Barbara Schmidt and Dr Su-Chiung Fang. The poster judging will be on the afternoons of Monday, 26th, and Tuesday, 27th of February. Judging sheets for both have been circulated.

   b. Conservation

John confirmed that 24 had been invited to the meeting on February 24th and 8 had replied, plus Clare, George, and Will. If required, remote access for others could be arranged via Jerry from Elite Professional Conference Organizer.

   a. Horticulture

Ying-Tung agreed to discuss the suggestion for a meeting during the WOC with TOGA to discuss the TOGA MOU.

Trustees Only
1. Election of Officers
An e-mail election of Officers was carried out before the meeting without discussion.
The results were:
John – President-Elect
Dennis - Secretary
Will - Treasurer
The results were unanimously voted on and approved.

2. TOGA – Associate Status
A proposal to invite TOGA to become an Associate of the Trust was unanimously voted on and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 7.28 PM EST (US) as no other business existed.

Next Meeting
Date/Time: Saturday, February 24, 2024, at 3:30 PM at ICC Tainan, room Tainan Orange C

Clare Hermans