World Orchid Conference Trust

Location: ICC Tainan room Tainan Orange B
Date/Time: February 24, 2024, at 3.30 PM

Inclusion: Trustees, Fellows, Advisors

Minutes

Present: Munekazu Ejiri, Alison Gallaway, George Hatfield (President-Elect), Clare Hermans (Secretary), Johan Hermans, Dennis Kao, David Ridgeway, William Riley (President), John Varigos (Treasurer), Yin-Tung Wang

Meeting: Called to order at 3.30 PM

Standing Reports:
1. President’s Report
   a. The Minutes of February 14, 2024, were unanimously voted on and approved.
   b. Will requested feedback from the Board about the WOC. The following comments were made.
      i. Judging: The Judging Manual and Captains Briefing should clearly identify the person from the judging organisation to whom Captains can take issues, as no one was on site on the judging day. The electronic voting system with QR codes worked well, but more space was needed to see the short-listed plants. The Judging Advisory Subgroup was helpful.
      ii. Show: Labelling of plants in the displays should be advised in a readable font size. Otherwise, the feedback was positive.
2. Treasurer’s Report.
   a. Will reported that the Florida tax bill had been paid.

Current Active Discussion:
1. WOC Committee Report - Taiwan 23rd WOC update. No report
2. Social Media. No report
3. Site Selection Committee.
   a. George reported that thirteen members were appointed, and the reserves would be Observers if not required on the day. Observers would only participate and leave after the bids were discussed. It was agreed that George would circulate the three bid documents and the selection criteria to the members.
   b. George and Alison discussed using Zoom sessions with individual bidders before the Site Selection meeting to smooth the process.
   c. It was agreed that the committee and bidders would be informed that Provisional Hosts would have to bid again.

Current Activity Pending Approval:
None
Current Activity Pending Completion
None

Miscellaneous Items
It was agreed to announce only the successful bid to host the 2026 WOC at the Closing Ceremony, not the Provisional Hosts. All bidders were informed that they would become Associates of the WOCT and needed to nominate a Fellow to work with John as President-Elect. He would monitor their performance and report back to the Board. In addition, areas for improvement would be fed back to them.

Future Activity (Documents Under Study no action required)
1. Reports from Committees
   a. Scientific & Education YW
   b. Conservation JV
   c. Horticulture DK
No reports were tabled.

The meeting adjourned at 16.45 as no other business existed.

Next Meeting
Date/Time: Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at ICC Tainan, room Tainan Orange B at 12.30 PM

Clare Hermans