BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes
April 8, 2024
Forest Glen Golf and Country Club Clubhouse

President, Richard Davenport, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

In attendance were Jim Rawson, Richard Davenport, Stu Rubin, Marie Harris, Rae Jean Walker, Karen Davenport, Linda Van Blerkom, Sue Roehl and Carolyn Booker.

1. Minutes from the March 7, 2024, were reviewed. Marie Harris moved to approve the minutes, Rae Jean Walker seconded, and the motion passed.
2. Treasurer: David Orr was not present so there was no report
3. Membership:
   a. Marie Harris advised there were 237 members.
   b. Discussions were held about reconciling David Orr's records with Marie's.
   c. There were discussions relating to Lifetime Memberships, how they were determined and awarded. Karen Davenport moved to nominate Veronica Catrombon for a Lifetime Membership. Rae Jean Walker seconded and the motion was passed. Richard Davenport will prepare the certificate to be presented to Veronica at a future date.
   d. There were discussions relating to emails sent from the NOS website, who receives them, who replies and how replies should be handled. This was tabled for a future date.
4. Software Purchase Revision: Bob Castonguay was not present so this agenda item was not discussed.
5. Orchid University 101 Culture Classes: Jim Rawson advised the Board that the classes have been going well and several free orchids have been handed out. April 13, 2024, is the last class. There were discussions regarding changes to be considered for online registration and to the program. Once again, the subject of replying to inquiries from the website were discussed.
6. New Business:
   a. Richard Pippen Auction: Richard Davenport and Jim Rawson reported that Bill Thomas, member of NOS and GCOA, is going to be the Auctioneer and that he is going to present the "How To's" and forms required for the auction and a list of job responsibilities. Volunteers will be contacted and a "Pre-Auction" meeting will be held at a location and a date to be determined, prior to the actual auction. The auction will be held in Moss Hall at Moorings Presbyterian Church on 4/20/24 starting at noon.
   b. Conflict Of Interest Affidavits: Affidavits were provided by Richard Davenport and collected from each voting member of the Board. Absent members will sign the Affidavits at the next Board meeting.
   c. Scholarship: Chuck Ferber, Director-Education, discussed the Dr. Richard Pippen Scholarship that had been approved for Macala Reidy. After some discussion, it was decided that Chuck would send Ms. Reidy a letter with stipulations relating to this scholarship which would include the need to submit a report to the Board outlining how the $1,000.00 that was awarded was spent.
      - There were discussions regarding changes that were needed on the Website relating to Scholarship availability and changes to the online Registration Form. It was suggested that no dollar amount be included on the Website scholarship section, nor on the registration form.
      - Chuck discussed the intern program provided through Dr. Lawrence Zettler of Illinois College for original orchid field research.

7. Richard Davenport reminded the Board that we still need to find a Publicity Chairperson, as that position has been open for about a year, with Jim Rawson filling in. We also need to be searching for a Treasurer to replace David Orr who would like to retire.
8. Education Outreach: There were general discussions relating to educational outreach in local communities and that when someone presents an educational program, it should be included in the Newsletter. Discussions relating to this were tabled for a future meeting since Chuck Ferber, Education Director, was not present.
9. Richard Davenport led discussions relating to changing the "Election Year" for NOS Board members from January 1 through December 31 to June 1 through May 31. The beginning of the year is the busiest for NOS starting with our Show in February and Culture Classes following close behind. Typically, there are new Board members who may not be familiar with these programs or their status, making progress with negotiations for dates and locations a little more difficult. This agenda item was tabled for future discussions.
10. NOS has been notified by Naples Botanical Garden that the Culture Classes facility will not be provided in 2025 as part of the 2025 Show and Sale business relationship.
11. The Board discussed using Google Docs or another cloud storage facility as permanent storage for all NOS documents.
12. The next Board meeting will be held on May 14, 2024, at the Forest Glen Golf and Country Club Clubhouse at 6:30 p.m.
13. Sue Roehl moved to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Stu Rubin and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

SHOW COMMITTEE

1. Stu Rubin advised the Board the Show dates for 2025 will be February 19-23, the third weekend of the month.
2. Stu asked that members begin thinking about a Show Theme and send suggestions to his email by our May 14 meeting.
3. Stu moved to adjourn the meeting, Rae Jean Walker seconded, and the motion was passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Davenport, Secretary