

## ***Minutes of the Monthly Meeting***

### ***5 March 2020***

Respectfully submitted by Cynthia Bock

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Dick Pippen. He reviewed the emergency procedures and thanked the refreshment providers and Mary Jo Shively for coordinating. Dick announced the new reward for being a refreshment provider. If you bring refreshments you get a free raffle ticket. Dick reported that the show went very well. Weather was wonderful. There were 27 exhibitors! 5,500 people came to the show! 1,400 more than last year. Dick announced many of the awards (listed in the newsletter). Many of our members volunteered and Dick thanked them all. Raffle baskets raised over \$4,700! Dick thanked all the sponsors. And Dick thanked Naples Botanical Gardens for hosting us. This meeting is volunteer recognition night! Dick presented certificates of appreciation to many of the show volunteers. Our show would not be possible without the contributions of our members, our sponsors and the hard work of our volunteers. We thank you all! April meeting will be 2nd of April.

Sheila Demkovich, Treasurer, was absent, but she reported that we have \$16k in checking,

Lanelle was absent.

Veronica Catrombon, Membership Chair, reported that membership is 178 now paid members with 1300 followers on Facebook. Veronica announced that we have 39 newmembers!

Kit Kitchen Maran reported that the board has approved 2 interns (returning from last year) from Illinois College and a grant for Dr. Ernesto Mujica, if he can get a visa. The 2 interns have been a part of the project which identified the pollinators of the ghost orchids. NOS has participated in the funding of 10 of the people who have participated in thisproject. Our support for research and education is having an effect!!

Dick introduced tonight's speaker, Mac Rivenbark of Mac's Orchid, who spoke about Tips and Tricks for Orchid growing.

The Plant Table winners were announced, and Raffle winners were announced.

The meeting was adjourned.