

**PROFESSIONAL STAFF ORGANIZATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

JUNE 26, 2008

BOARD RETREAT

ISAACSON CLASSROOM, CENTER FOR URBAN HORTICULTURE

MINUTES

ATTENDING: Ethan Allen, Ellen Barker, Elizabeth Campbell, Neal Culver, Anne Doherty, Ann Guss, Hollye Keister, Keith McIntyre, Aaron Morello, Debbie Proctor, Peter Rackers (chair), Carol Rhodes, Anita Rocha, Karen Russell, Jeanne Small, Johanna Taylor, Adelia Yee

INTRODUCTIONS AND OPENING DISCUSSION

Ethan Allen led the board in introductions for the new and returning board members. Peter Rackers discussed board procedures and the use of Robert's Rules.

DISCUSSION OF NEW BOARD MEMBER

The board discussed Aaron Morello's nomination to fill a vacant board position. The motion was passed unopposed.

DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL ACCOUNT AUTHORITY

The board discussed a motion to add Karen Russell, elected treasurer, to the PSO bank account and budget number. The motion was passed unopposed.

DISCUSSION OF COMBINING ANSWER CATEGORIES ON PSO MEMBER SURVEY

The 2008 Professional Staff Survey, Question 9, asked pro staff to rate several issues on a scale of importance. The board discussed a motion to combine answer categories in the following manner. The motion was passed unopposed.

- 1) Highest priority (unchanged)
- 2) High Priority and Priority (combined)
- 3) Low Priority, Not an Issue, and No Answer (combined)

DISCUSSION OF WEBSITE REDESIGN

Anita Rocha summarized the findings of the subcommittee to redesign the PSO website. The subcommittee recommended the company Analogue Web Design. The board discussed a motion to approve a contract with Analogue Web for up to \$6,400 to complete the redesign. The motion was passed unopposed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board members volunteered for various committees. The Outreach Committee became a subcommittee of Communications.

Outreach Committee (Nancy Bradshaw, chair)

Neal Culver

Communications Committee (Ann Guss, chair)

Judith Yarrow

Ellen Barker

Anita Rocha

Debbie Proctor

Johanna Taylor

Adelia Yee

Jeanne Small

Elizabeth Campbell

Deborah Shaddock

Events Committee (Ellen Barker, chair)

Debbie Proctor

Carol Rhodes

Elizabeth Campbell

Hollye Keister

Scholarship Committee (Suzanne St Peter, chair)

Ethan Allen

Anne Doherty

Hollye Keister

Finance Committee (Karen Russell, chair)

Debbie Proctor

DISCUSSION OF OTHER BUSINESS

Karen Russell will be in charge of the PSO email list-serv. Peter Rackers will maintain the PSO website once it is redesigned. Peter will send a copy of the April minutes to the board so that they may be voted upon at the July meeting. Because Peter will be out of town during the regularly scheduled July board meeting, he will send out a survey for possible dates for rescheduling.

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE EVENTS

The board discussed a number of potential events, including: a dispute resolution panel at Harborview; facilitated networking; affinity tables; analysis of the composition of pro staff; uploading presentations to the website; a 6-month follow-up for new hires; and a pro staff blog.

Potential topics include: how to manage one's own career, especially on soft money; caring for elderly parents; retirement; mentoring; project management; advanced time management; negotiating; fitting exercise into the day; nutrition for people aged 50 and older; telecommuting and alternative work schedules; and the layoff procedure.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.