

The Herb Society of America, Inc.
Highlights from the Board of Director's Meeting
Asheville, NC
April 28, 2016

Status of Motions before the Board:

- Accepted the minutes of the February 26, 2016 Board Meeting as corrected.
- Accepted the *Spring 2016 Board Reports* as corrected.
- Accepted the *2016 Annual Reports* as amended.
- Accepted the *HSA Blog Guidelines* as revised.
- Accepted the *District Delegate Handbook Appendix 2* as revised.
- Accepted the *District Delegate Handbook Appendix 1* as revised.
- Accepted the *District Delegate Handbook* as revised.
- Accepted the *Vice President Job Description* as revised
- Accepted the *Operating Manual Review Committee* document as amended.
- Accepted the *Honorary President Guidelines* document as amended.
- Accepted the *President Job Description* document as reviewed.
- Accepted the *Archives Access Policy* document as revised.
- Accepted the *Archives Guidelines* document as revised.
- Accepted the *Strategic Plan 2016-2018 a.k.a. the President's Operational Plan*.
- Accepted the proposal to offer sponsorships for each of the gardens and hardscape projects at HSA Headquarters.
- Accepted the 4th quarter or end of year preliminary financial reports as presented in facilitation.
- Accepted the amount of \$25,000 for the contribution to the National Herb Garden intern
- Accepted the motion to suspend the Lunaria Society program.
- Accepted the motion to put a donate button on our Facebook page.
- Accepted the motion to make the Donald Samull Grants consist of ten \$200 grants to benefit grades three to six..
- Accepted the motion to suspend the Grant for Educators program for one year to form an *ad hoc* committee to look at the application process and clarify what the grant is for and what it is doing.

President

- Prior to the board meeting being called to order, the board participated in the following facilitations.
 - A discussion led by Susan Liechty on board restructure, cost cutting and income producing ideas generated during team exercises.
 - A presentation by Rie Sluder on the new blog guideline changes.
 - A presentation by Susan Liechty of the *Board Governance Committee* findings.
 - A presentation by Rae McKimm on the 2016-2018 *Strategic Plan a.k.a. the President's Operational Plan*.
 - A discussion led by Carol Schmidt on the Development Committee recommendations.

- An examination and discussion led by Lin Lange on the preliminary Fiscal Year 2016 Fourth Quarter financial reports.
- The Executive Director Katrinka Morgan's evaluation was completed and she has agreed to continue in her position for another year.
- We have become a network partner with MillionPollinatorsGardenChallenge.org and are listed on their website
- We received an anonymous gift of \$5,000 to hire help to complete the transfer of material from the old website to the new website.

Executive Director:

- Volunteer hours were reported to be 40,636 hours with only nineteen units reporting. The value of volunteer hours is \$23.07 per hour

Botany and Horticulture

- *The Essential Guide for the Notable Native Herb 2017* has been completed and, after a final review, will be posted on the website.
- The HSA original seal has been found by the New England Unit and was presented to the Herb Society to be displayed at headquarters.

Development

- The '35 for 35' campaign generated over \$34,000.
- Ninety-four more donors participated in the 2015 Annual Appeal than the prior year and resulted in raising more money.
- Watch for new Gallery Garden items being put on the website.

Education

- The 2016 Research Grant recipient is Margaret Skinner from the University of Vermont. Her research topic that HSA will be funding is: Quality Assessment of Saffron Grown in Northern New England
- The HSA 2017 Annual Meeting of Members and EdCon will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas from May 3 to 7.

Nominating:

- The Nominating Committee is accepting applications for the following board positions for the term July 1, 2017–June 30, 2020: secretary, botany and horticulture and publication. The application deadline is October 31, 2016. Forms are available on the website.
- Three districts will be having delegate elections: Southeast district, Mid Atlantic District and The West district. The application deadline is January 10, 2017.

Awards:

- Accepting award nominations for 2017 awards. The nominations must be received at HSA headquarters no later than September 1, 2016. The nomination forms and award descriptions are available on the website.