

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America (CSSA) • Associated Plant Society of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)

Minutes of the General Meeting, November 12, 2023

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
Terri Straub, Vice President
Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary
Vincent Darmali, At-large Board Member
Braulio Mena, At-large Board Member &
CGCI Liaison
Shane Mullen, At-large Board Member
Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair
Braulio Mena, CGCI Liaison
M.A. Bjarkman, CSSA Liaison & Program Chair

Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Person
Mike Short, Communications Committee Chair &
Webmaster

Committee Members (Tasked):

Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
Terri Straub, Show & Sale Chair & Mini-Show
Coordinator
Laurel Woodley, Facebook
Caitlin Rubia, Instagram
Clif Wong, Newsletter Editor

There were 57 members in attendance. Vice-President, Terri Straub, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm in the South Coast Botanic Garden Auditorium. She welcomed attendees to the meeting.

Program:

Braulio Mena introduced our popular speaker Steven Frieze whose program, entitled “Oaxaca, Mexico,” covered the range of cactus and succulents growing in the same habitat as tillandsias and bromeliads. His discoveries were depicted through photographs from a trip there with his fellow Desert Creations founders.

A question and answer period followed his talk, which concluded at 2:33pm.

Announcements before the break by Terri Straub:

Terri asked Sally Fasteau to pick two names from the sprinkling can: one to help judge and the other to assist with selecting names for the door prize plants.

Approval by the membership of the candidates for the Board election:

The following were nominated to run for the elected positions on the Board for 2024:

President: Maria Capaldo

Vice President: Terri Straub

Secretary: Debra Bushweit Galliani

Treasurer: Bernard Johnson

Members At-large:

Martha Bjerke

Vince Darmali

Nancy Sams

Terri invited any members who would like to run to put their name up for consideration. No interest was expressed. A vote for the slate carried by acclamation.

Jackie Jackson announced the South Bay Bromeliad Associates' program featuring Nick Federoff at South Coast Botanic Garden on November 15. Flyers were provided.

Terri announced a break to give attendees time to shop our vendors, including plants from Steve Frieze.

Break-Reconvene:

Terri recessed the meeting at 2:37pm and it was reconvened at 2:52pm.

November Mini-Show categories: Cactus and Succulents: *Monstrose* and crested plants.

The plants were judged by Steven Frieze and assisted by Martha Bjerke with overseeing by Terri Straub. Winners in first, second and third place were awarded in novice, intermediate and open categories. The winners will be listed in our Newsletter and on our Website, along with photographs taken by Mike Short. Martha was offered a free plant selection for helping.

Brag Table:

New members and guests: Sally announced that Wanna Chang joined as new member and she was offered to select a free plant.

Birth month plants: Members whose birthdays are in November were offered to select a free plant by Terri.

Door prize plants: Gloria Diaz drew tickets for members to select a free plant and Terri announced the names of the winners. Gloria selected a free plant.

New Business:

None.

Announcements:

Gary Duke announced the plant sale at his Long Beach house on November 19. Flyers were provided.

Terri spoke on behalf of Maria Capaldo who asked members to pot up plants to provide to our Society Sale table at our April Show & Sale. She had clean pots available for those who needed them.

Next Meeting: Our Holiday Potluck is our next meeting on Sunday, December 10 at 1:00 pm. Everyone brings a dish to share in small servings; and the Society will provide beef, ham, coffee, tea and water. Dishes should be labeled with the contents listed in case of allergies, and ready to consume at 1:00 pm. There is no ability to cook, warm-up or keep anything in the refrigerator. Attendees bring their beverage of choice.

A request for volunteers to set up the room at 12:00 pm was made on Maria's behalf. A number of people raised their hands to help out.

Those who have the highest points in the Mini-Show in all categories this year will receive an award plant. Members will receive our plant of the year. Bring last year's plant of the year, *Aylosteria (Rebutia) vulpine*, to show how it has been grown, even if it looks pitiful, to compare all the plants one year later. A questionnaire for your feedback on how you grew it will be provided. There will be a charge of \$10 for admission to the Holiday Party for non-members. Advise Maria by the Thursday before the meeting if you are bringing a guest so their name is added to the attendee list.

Dues for 2024: The annual dues for the calendar year 2024 are \$20 per person. There is no prorating. Submit the membership form, on our Website under the "About Us" tab, with payment to our Treasurer. Cash or checks are accepted at a meeting. Checks are made to South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society. The form provides the address to mail it and the payment.

Minutes: The October Minutes were posted. There were no corrections, and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Reports:

Treasury Report: Bernard Johnson provided the Treasury Report.

Terri closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and adjourned it at 3:27pm. She indicated that a Board meeting would not follow.

Submitted,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary