**National Christmas Tree Association**

**Board Meeting**

**August 5, 2021**

**1:00 pm ET**

**Jefferson Landing, Jefferson, NC**

**MINUTES**

**Welcome and Roll Call** – President, Dugald Kell, Jr. called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm, a quorum was present as confirmed by roll call.

**Board Members in Attendance:**

Keith Garlock

Kathy Kogut

Wendy Richardson

Reid Bermel

Phil Wegman

Dugald Kell, Jr.

Joncie Underwood

Scott Powell

Carol Freeman (by phone)

Scott Lund

Nigel Manley

John Wyckoff

Wilson Barr

Gary Snyder

Mark McCurdy

Bentley Curry (in place of Kevin Steele)

Jim Wilson (by phone)

John Carroll

Steve Meier

Patricia Gaskin

**Staff in Attendance:**

Tim O’Connor

Craig Regelbrugge, AmericanHort

**Minutes of the 7/30/20 and 3/16/21 board meetings –** It was MOVED and SECONDED to accept the minutes as presented. MOTION APPROVED.

**Finance Report –** The June 2021 financial report was reviewed. It was MOVED and SECONDED to accept the financial report as presented. MOTION APPROVED.

**2021 Membership Report –** There were 359 members for 2021 at the date of this report: 213 Industry, 70 Introductory/Retired, 33 Professional, 33 Research and 10 Suppliers. Three additional memberships were received after this tabulation was calculated bringing the total to 362 members for 2021.

Discussion was held on how NCTA can gain larger growers as members. Scott Powell and Gary Snyder will work with Tim O’Connor to develop a NCTA plan for outreach to major growers.

**Membership Incentive Program –** Discussion was held on an incentive program to encourage timely 2022 membership renewals. It was MOVED and SECONDED to enter all 2022 renewal and new memberships received by March 1, 2022 in a drawing for a free 2023 membership, excluding members of the board. An AMENDMENT to the motion was made and SECONDED to extend this program to a two-year trial. The AMENDMENT was APPROVED. The MOTION as AMENDED was APPROVED.

A multi-year NCTA membership option will be considered for the future.

**Tree Industry Partnership (TIP) –** TheTIP program for 2021 was discussed. Letters requesting 2021 TIP payments and membership lists will be sent to state and regional associations in the near future.

**Legislative Update –** Craig Regelbrugge updated the board on key policy topics including; labor, trucking, infrastructure bill, ag spending bill, the AmericanHort DC Summit and other issues important to the industry. A good policy discussion was held.

**NCTA Webinars –** Webinars on topics important to growers will draw interest to NCTA and potential attract new members. They could also be shown at state and regional association meetings. Topics and presenters for NCTA webinars will be considered.

**National Tree and Wreath Contest –** the contest was reviewed.

**NCTA Awards –** the 2021 awards and contest winners will be presented at the evening event on August 6.

**Hosting a 2024 NCTA Convention –** following discussion, a MOTION was made and SECONDED for the Executive Committee to look into having a 2024 NCTA convention. MOTION APPROVED.

**Officer Elections –** The nominating committee presented its slate of 2022—2023 officer nominees:

Steve Meier, President

John Wyckoff, President-Elect

Scott Powell, Vice President

A MOTION was made and SECONDED to elect the slate of officers presented by the nominating committee. MOTION APPROVED.

**Future Meeting Locations –** the 2022 NCTA Board Meeting will be hosted by Nova Scotia, July 14 – 16, 2022; the 2023 NCTA Board Meeting and contest will be hosted by Minnesota at Wolcyn Tree Farms & Nursery. The dates of August 4 – 5 or 11 – 12, 2023 are being considered for the meeting and contest.

**Other Business –** Discussion was held on CTPB’s decision not to fund NCTA’s Voice of the Industry proposal and the relationship between NCTA and CTBP. Paul Schroeder and Mark McCurdy have been appointed to the Christmas Spirit Foundation board of trustees by NCTA. One additional CSF trustee position from NCTA remains to be filled.

**Adjournment** **–** It was MOVED and SECONDED to adjourn. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim O’Connor

Executive Director