**GENERAL MEETING**

**1/18/24**

Mike Huber called the meeting to order at 7:43

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Council Meeting is February 1st and Auction is February 3rd

Mike Hellweg announced the sad news of a long-time MASI member, council member, and Treasurer Klaus Bertich, had passed recently. He will be greatly missed, especially for his memorable humor.

Lora shared an update of MASI donating an Axolotl setup to a local 3rd grade class.

Steve Coxon announced Kurt Zahringer is at the ALA/AKA/International Betta Congress, a joint convention, and is helping them with a new rare fish competition.

**TREASURER**

Ian shared our current balance and shared that our financials are stable, with reasonable interest being accumulated from our CDs, additional information for our checkings and savings accounts were shared. Motion by Pat, Mike Hellweg 2nd.

**SECRETARY**

Minutes were read. Lora made motion to approve, Andrej 2nd passed

**DARTER**

Micah announced if somebody did not get the Darter, reach out to him

**BOWL SHOW**

Lora announced there was 1 entrant, it was Lora, Lora entered her bowl. Competition was fierce, but Lora persevered with a victory for the best bowl.

Lora announced the list of monthly bowl show themes. No Bowl show on May, and no speaker in May, consideration for Fishy Days to be held in May will be had at next Council.

**HAP/BAP**

Mike Hellweg shared updates about BAP, to include Steve Edie’s wonderful work in ensuring that classifications of fish are up to date. In addition, recognition about Steve Edie’s dedication to ensure the CARE Species program remains strong was highlighted, with well-earned applause given.

Mike Hellweg has asked Andrej Spec to assist with HAP submissions and administration of the program.

With Mike Hellweg taking over the administration of BAP, Mike Hellweg asked members to provide feedback and suggestions on how to improve the program.

Mike Hellweg additionally shared concerns that were discussed at the recent council meeting regarding 20pt Fish scoring and the correlation with the fish being expensive vs. inexpensive. Mike explained that fish price and rarity do not always equate to point value.

Mike Hellweg lastly shared the various turn in fish for BAP donations. Mike then shared HAP submission items. It was very likely that Andrej Spec turned in a plant that sounded like a Fancy Charcuterie Cheese from the Swiss Alps.

**AUCTION**

Mike Hellweg reported that February 3rd is auction. Volunteers in the morning is requested. 8:30am report time. Trying something new for the sellers in regards to payment, rather than send checks via mail, we will shift towards electronic payment via PayPal with no fees.

Hellweg explained if a seller wants a number for the auction, to reach out to Hellweg ASAP, there are around 10 slots left.

A motion to adjourn at 9:37 was made by Mike Huber 2nd by Ian Eggert. Motion passed.