

Minutes of the Maize Genetics Cooperation, Inc. Board of Directors (BOD)  
April 7, 2020 via Zoom, 8:30 am Central Time

BOD members present: David Braun, Ed Buckler, Natalia de Leon, Sherry Flint-Garcia (secretary), Candy Hirsch, Dave Jackson, Shawn Kaeppler, James Schnable, Ruth Wagner.

Motions/votes in turquois.

**Welcome - Introductions & Structure of MGC**

- Introduction of new members: Sherry, Candy, and James.
- Thank you to Shawn for past service.

**Maize Genetics Meetings - 2020 & 2021**

- The most recent Maize Genetics Meeting Steering Committee (MGMSC) was summarized.
- The steering committee has discussed various ideas for conducting a virtual 2020 Maize Genetics Meeting. A decision was made to invite the 2020 plenary speakers to speak at the 2021 meeting.
- The 2021 Meeting will be in St Louis. Steering committee is considering how a 2020 virtual meeting would impact the 2021 meeting.
- The MGC BOD is planning a virtual Community Session to make up for cancelled 2020 meeting.

**Business Updates**

- Updates were provided about issues regarding the MGC organization and things to consider going forward.
- MGC BOD will create a centralized location for documents and sharing information, both within committees and externally with the public.

**Structure of MGC**

- The structure of the MGC was reviewed, showing oversight by the BOD, and the sub structures including the Maize Genetics Advocacy Committee (MGAC; akin to the former Maize Genetics Executive Committee), the Maize Genetics Meeting Steering Committee (MGMSC), and the Awards Committee.
- A motion was made and passed that the BOD treasurer serves on MGMSC, the BOD communication coordinator serves on the MGAC, and the secretary serves on the Awards Committee.

**Meeting minutes**

- It was agreed to make meeting minutes publicly available, except for closed meetings.

**Account financial status**

- The current status of the 2020 expenses and income was reviewed, as well as financial assets.
- A discussion occurred regarding future meeting locations and registration costs.

### **Officer & director insurance**

- We recently obtained insurance for those making decisions on behalf of MGC.
- Need to consider meeting insurance.

### **Committee Charges /Format**

- Each committee needs to be revisit and rewrite their respective committee charges document.

### **Membership Dues**

- Needed for consistency and predictability of meeting costs.
- Need to draft a document to implement the membership dues.

### **Federal employees document**

- Need documentation for various groups, e.g. Federal employees serving on the BOD, and for participation in general. This is particularly relevant to lobbying activities.

### **MGC donations plan**

- Need to work on MGC donations plan.
- Recommendation was made by ACSESS to develop a website to make donations, where two or three causes (e.g. fund student attendance or international participants) can be listed for the donor to choose from.
- Need to create an investment account to handle future endowment donations.
- [A motion was made and passed to establish an investment account with ACSESS to receive donations.](#)

### **MaizeGDB website updates**

- There are a lot of changes happening with MGC. We need to make this information available to community.

### **Scheduling Future Meetings**

- Next meetings need to be monthly until most issues are ironed out.

**Meeting was adjourned at 10:00.**