

# Maize Genetics Cooperation, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes December 7, 2020 via Zoom, 2:00 pm Central Time

BOD Members Present: Ruth Wagner, David Braun, Ed Buckler, Sherry Flint-Garcia (secretary), Candy Hirsch, Dave Jackson, Marilyn Warburton

BOD Members absent: Natalia de Leon, James Schnable

## Motions/votes in turquois.

1. MGC Business Topics
  - A motion passed to change fiscal year (start January 1, end December 31) and also to update the bylaws accordingly.
  - New website went live mid-October (<https://www.maizegdb.org/mgc/>)
  - Tax exempt forms have been submitted
  - Discussed MGC membership for 2021
2. Maize Genetics Meeting Steering Committee (MGMSC) Updates
  - Maize Genetics Meeting 2021
    - Scheduled for Monday March 8- Friday March 11, 2021
    - Meeting registration website is up, hosted by MGDB, and will go live Dec. 15.
  - CODIE requests funding for a speaker at 2021 Meeting
    - Partnering with MGMSC on diverse speakers and speakers on the topic of diversity
    - Requesting funding through RCN and MGC
    - MGSC is including a talk on diversity and has partnered with CODIE in selecting Beronda Montgomery (<https://prl.natsci.msu.edu/people/faculty/beronda-montgomery/>).
  - Need to request nominations for MGMSC, ANC, MGAC, CODIE as part of 2021 MGC elections.
3. Conversation with Conference Direct (CD)
  - Summary of meeting between MGSC and BOD members with Kristin House from CD. She shared about the work they do, kinds of contract support and negotiation. Possibility to include them in future meeting planning.
  - MGSC evaluated multiple vendor options including CD and MU for supporting the virtual format. After demos and discussions, the team recommends to work with CD to support the virtual platform for 2021 meeting.
  - A motion passed to approve Conference Direct for 2021 virtual meeting; this is a one-year commitment.
4. Award & Nomination Committee (ANC)
  - Charge document and award descriptions updated and discussed
    - Increased the number of committee members to 9.
    - Removed the need for prior award winners to rotate on the committee.
    - BOD selects 3 new people per year based on suggestions from CODIE and MGAC.
    - BOD confirms awardees selected by ANC for Early Career, Mid-Career, Cooperator and Leadership awards.

- BOD and MGAC chooses the McClintock awardees per original plan.
  - Proposed election format; ANC collects nominations and selects 2 candidates. MGC membership votes between the two candidates.
  - Updating Award Nomination Committee members: Marilyn Warburton, Hank Bass, Irina Makarevitch (from CODIE) + initial committee (Buckler, McSteen, Hufford)\*\*
  - Updated MGC nomination form to include a 600 character platform statement for each candidate.
  - 2021 election roles (incoming chair, Communication Coordinator, 1 at-large position)
- A motion was passed to approve the charge document as outlined above.
- A motion was passed to approve the nominations to the committee to include the six members above(\*\*) and to expand ANC by adding 3 additional international members.
- ANC will soon be putting out a call for award and committee nominations
- 5. Communication strategy discussed: several major communications need to go out soon
  - meeting registration, committee nominations/elections and award nominations/elections, MGC membership
- 6. Maize Genetics Advocacy Committee (MGAC)
  - RCN was held mid-November, focusing on Discovery to Product subcommittee. Approximately 200 people were registered for the event. First time virtual and first time open to entire MGC.
- 7. Need to send out an email to solicit funds to support MGC organization.

Meeting adjourned at 3:20