

Maize Genetics Cooperation, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes July 19, 2021 via Zoom, 2:00 pm Central Time

BOD Members Present: Candy Hirsch, Sherry Flint-Garcia (secretary), Ed Buckler, Lisa Harper, Jay Hollick, Thelma Madzima, James Schnable, Ruth Wagner

BOD Members Absent: David Braun

Other committee chairs present: John Fowler (CODIE); Matt Hufford, Ruben Rellan-Alvarez, and Erin Sparks (MGMSC)

Motions in blue

Open Session with the community

Community members present: Mike Muszynski, Marilyn Warburton

CODIE Report

- Vote on CODIE committee charge document
 - A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the CODIE charge document.
- Update on the RCN workshop
 - CODIE RCN Subcommittee was formed
 - Target date in early October; virtual venue
 - Draft title: “Building Better Together: A Workshop To Develop Strategies For A Healthy And Inclusive Research Community”
 - Topics came from “what the pandemic revealed”: (1) navigating issues and impacts related to mental health in the workplace, (2) building inclusive scientific communities and (3) improving mentorship and collegial relationships among diverse peers.
 - White paper of findings and recommendations to be delivered to MGC, MaizeGDB, funding agencies

MGMSC Report

- Vote on Code of Conduct document
 - A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the Code of Conduct document.
- Update on Virtual Option for 2022

The MGM SC has determined that a fully hybrid meeting (i.e. live streaming in-person content) is not achievable logistically or financially for the 2022 meeting. They propose and are finalizing the an alternative plan.
- 2022 Meeting
 - Concerns about Missouri possibly having an extremely high covid rates in March 2022. Discussion about the implications of cancelling the in-person meeting. Discussion about vaccination and masking if we hold in-person meeting.

- 2024 Meeting
 - Tentative dates of February 28-March 3 in Raleigh, NC
 - Discussion of finances concerning a Raleigh meeting at the Convention Center located in Downtown Raleigh
 - A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to accept the location and venue choice for 2024 and proceed with the Raleigh Convention Center contract.

Membership Committee Report

- Discussed platforms for dues collection and timelines for decisions
- Discussed suggested price points
- Discussion to be continued in August

Missouri tax exempt status for 2022 meeting

- Submitted the Wisconsin tax exempt status
- Submitted Missouri certificate of authority request
- Tax exempt status request to be submitted next
- Discussion about using a lawyer for future efforts?

Approve minutes from previous meeting

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve June minutes.

AllVoices contract (maizegenetics.allvoices.co)

- Was used for anonymous reporting of harassment, etc. Maize Genetics Conference in the past. Now we have the Code of Conduct document detailing reporting.
- A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to terminate the contract with AllVoices since the 2021 RCN activity will be virtual.

Meeting adjourned at 3:42 pm