

# Maize Genetics Cooperation, Inc. Board of Directors Meeting Minutes January 19, 2022 via Zoom, 2:00 pm Central Time

BOD Members Present: Candy Hirsch, Sherry Flint-Garcia (secretary), David Braun, Ed Buckler, Lisa Harper, Jay Hollick, Thelma Madzima

Absent: James Schnable, Ruth Wagner

Other committee chairs present: Ruben Rellan Alvarez, Erin Sparks (MGMSC), John Fowler (CODIE), Wojtek Pawlowski (Membership), Paula McSteen (ANC)

## Motions in blue

### **Open Session with the community**

- No community members joined the meeting

### **Meeting Minutes**

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the December minutes; vote passed unanimously.

### **Updates**

- End of year donation request was sent out on December 30, received 2 donations so far.
- 2021 tax preparation has been started
- Gather Presence, Inc (2021 meeting gathering program) check - the \$6000 check (3022) from 2/22/21 still has not been cashed. Going to reach out to them one more time.
- Letters of Appreciation were sent out to supervisors of most of the committee chairs and members. Several still in progress.

### **Membership Committee**

- Currently at 137 members.
- Suggestion was made to add membership requirement for travel award application.
- Suggestion was made to remove the MGC membership requirement for nominating people for the McClintock award in order to encourage outside nominations and for the award to be a broad plant community award.
- A motion was made and seconded to remove the MGC membership requirement for the McClintock Award; vote passed unanimously.
- A motion was made and seconded to approve the Membership Committee charge document; vote passed unanimously.

### **ANC**

- Nominations for MGC Awards closes on January 24 .
- Update was given on the open BoD and other non-elected committee positions (CODIE, Steering committee, Membership, ANC, BOD).

- Request for BOD and committee nominations - email goes out January 25, with a deadline of February 4.

### **CODIE**

- Update regarding eligibility for travel awards (US Citizens regardless of where they are located, and non-citizens at US institutions)
- Goal to add CODIE topic papers to the Hot Papers at MaizeGDB.
- RCN workshop will be held Thursday (1/20) and Friday (1/21). CODIE is ready! 150 registrants.
- Another panelist decided to donate their honorarium to be used to support under represented participants.

### **MGM Steering Committee**

- Currently 30 applicants for travel awards.
- Please use Maize Genetics Meeting (MGM) rather than Maize Genetics Conference (MGC) in any official emails to the community to avoid confusion with the Maize Genetics Cooperation (MGC).
- Currently at \$55,000 in sponsorship
- Currently there are 18 (16 members + 2 non-members) people registered for the in person meeting and 3 people registered for the virtual meeting. \*\*Note that we are unable to compare this pace with previous years because we had not kept detailed records.
- Discuss decision deadlines and how we proceed with decisions regarding the in person meeting.
  - Many precautions are being taken to ensure safe conditions (boxed lunches, wider spacing, mike covers, signage on mikes, keeping hotel public out of our areas, etc.).
- Erin has drafted a statement to send to the community about where we are at with the meeting given the current COVID concerns.
- **A motion was made and seconded to proceed with the in-person meeting and to send the drafted email to the community; vote passed unanimously.**
- Reviewed and discussed updates to the COVID policy
- Decision to limit access to the Debit card number. Suggestion to reimburse purchases or that the treasurer makes purchases.

### **MGAC**

- Invitations were sent on 1/8/22 to funding agencies and corn growers to attend and speak at the community session.

Meeting adjourned 3:29 pm.