

Maize Genetics Cooperation Board of Directors
October 2, 2023 on Zoom
Meeting Minutes

BoD members present:

Marna Yandea-Nelson (Chair)
Jay Hollick (Outgoing Chair)
Wojtek Pawlowski (Incoming Chair)
Erin Sparks (Treasurer)
Mike Muszynski (Communications Director)
Andrea Eveland (At Large Member)
Thelma Madzima (At Large Member)
Laurie Smith (Secretary)
Jeff Ross-Ibarra (At Large Member)

Invited guest: Ruben Rellan-Alvarez (MGC Conference Steering Committee Chair)

Motions in blue

Meeting began 4:30pm Central time

1. Updates on 2024 Conference in Raleigh: Keynote speakers lined up now. Website almost ready to go. Initial message about conference announcing that registration is open will go out soon. Early registration will close shortly before Christmas because of meeting occurring a few weeks earlier than usual. Solution found for how to discount registration for MGC members: Fundraising underway and response expected soon from NSF on conference grant application.

2. **Motion made to dedicate \$2000 from the MGM budget to partially support up to two mentor-mentee pairs attending 2024 MGM with additional support from Roots & Shoots travel awards (<https://rootandshoot.org/2024-root-shoot-sacnas-manrrs-travel-award-application-open/>). Seconded and unanimous approved (9 votes in favor).**

3. Maize Genetics Meeting 2026 updates

4. Proposal discussed for soliciting donations from the community for an endowment that could be used to support meeting participants, and other purposes.

Ruben Rellan-Alvarez departed 3:30pm.

5. Community Letter: Board discussed plans to have a twice yearly communication from MGC leadership to the community summarizing initiatives and news of general interest. BoD Chair and Communications Director will work on this.

6. Need for new policies governing actions MGC is occasionally asked to take, currently handled ad hoc. Would like to have some policies in place for what kinds of requests MGC would act on, and how.

7. Motion made to approve June 16 Minutes. Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned 6pm Central time