

**Maize Genetics Cooperation Board of Directors**  
**December 11, 2023 on Zoom**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**BoD members present:**

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

**Absent:**

Thelma Madzima (At Large Member)

**Meeting began 4pm Central Time**

**Motions in blue**

**1. Nov. 17 BoD meeting minutes**

Motion made and seconded to approve Nov. 17 2023 BoD Meeting Minutes. Unanimously approved (8 yes votes)

**2. Maize Genetics Meeting updates**

- a. 2026: Contracts now signed for conference in Cologne, Germany
- b. 2024: Raleigh
  - i. Remaining business items reviewed along with plans to complete
  - ii. Plans are underway to integrate ombudsperson funded by Roots & Shoots (NSF REU)

**3. Revision of Maize Genetics Advocacy Committee (MGAC) Charge document**

MGAC will be established as a committee more separate from BoD than it currently is. BoD discussed revisions to charge document outlining composition of committee, method of selection (community-wide nomination and election vs. selection by current MGAC members), limited terms of service, BoD representation. To be finalized and voted on soon.

**4. Update on Awards and Nominations Committee (ANC) activities**

- a. Revised rubrics now approved by the BoD (email vote since last meeting) will be posted at MGC website to make selection process more transparent.

- b. Nomination deadline for 2024: Jan. 22. ANC will meet soon afterward to choose awardees. BoD will be presented with those that need BoD approval. Awards (medals and etched glass) will be created and awardee names go into conference booklet.

**5. The Kernel and other channels for dissemination of info from MGC members to community**

MGC Committee Chairs will be asked this month for contributions to The Kernel issue to be distributed mid-Feb right before the meeting. Reduces need for details in their presentations during the community session at the meeting. BoD reviewed draft of this request.

**6. Plan for requesting donations to MGC**

Treasurer will follow the tradition of sending a message to community requesting donations to MGC before the 2024 Maize Meeting.

**Meeting adjourned 5:45pm Central**

