

**19 January 2020, 1.00pm
NAPB EC Meeting**

Attendees

Hannah Senior, Dave Bubeck, Benjamin Trampe, Don Jones, Ksenija Gasic, Peggy Ozias-Akins, Mark Sorrell

Minutes from December Meeting

Minutes Approved – Moved Don Jones, Seconded Peggy Ozias-Akins

Financials – D Jones

We ended 2020 with a healthy cash balance, although there are a couple of remaining invoices to clear in connection with the Annual Meeting. Cash likely to be at \$195,000 as at end of January.

Don suggested we put another \$25,000 into investment fund. There was a discussion about the timing of this (whether it could be done in monthly instalments rather than one lump sum) and whether the funds could be invested in Environmentally / Socially / Governance conscious funds.

ACTION - Don to enquire what can be done regarding making smaller monthly investments and ESG investment options.

Borlaug Scholars – D Jones

Website updated, application page is now open.

Had few undergraduate applicants last year – this year there is targeted effort to increase this.

2021 Annual Meeting – M Sorrells

The fact that the meeting will be virtual will be announced shortly in the newsletter.

Mark has submitted a letter of intent to request NIFA support. There has been no response yet. Peggy suggested liaising with NIFA to understand their expectations for the proposal and ensure they're met. Previously two years' funding was given but it is thought this has moved to annual approval, possibly because of changes in costs for attending online conferences vs in person. There was also a discussion about how NIFA funds can be used - the funds go to the host (eg Uni Nebraska) so NAPB experiences a reduction in costs as a consequence; we want to ensure this is maximised.

Mark outlined the proposed agenda which is coming along well.

- Topics will include Gene editing, Diversity and Inclusion, In Vitro Breeding Techniques, High Throughput Phenotyping.
- Tours may include
 - Geneva-based, repositories (grape, apple, brassica, umbelliferae, solanum)

- Fruition Seeds – smaller seed company good at marketing and public outreach.
- Breeding programme field tours: apple, brassica, small fruits, grapes in Geneva + corn, alfalfa, potatoes, small grains, veg Ithaca.
- It was requested the Business Meeting could be at the start of the day rather than the end of the day if possible.
- No plan to have concurrent sessions.
- Presentations will be pre-recorded with live Q&A

There was a discussion about how to incorporate sponsors, which was felt to be time sensitive as this can be a slow process. There was a discussion about how to acknowledge and give profile to sponsors.

Mark thought he be able to secure a small grant through Diversity and Inclusion office to cover cost associated with this session.

ACTIONS – re sponsorship:

Mark agreed to progress liaison with potential Meeting sponsors with urgency, including:

- speak to the Nebraska committee,
- Take up Dave B on offer of help if needed
- Get contact details of sponsor liaison from Don J

It was agreed there is no need for an overarching theme for the programme.

There was a discussion about creating a durable online presence for Annual Meetings including the programme and a summary of abstracts so they can be cited. It was felt this should be available on the NAPB website if possible

ACTIONS - re online presence for meeting

Ben will enquire whether programme and summary of abstracts for each meeting can be added to NAPB website / get cost

Mark will ensure an abstract document for Cornell meeting is prepared.

To save time the following agenda items were skipped in preference to handling offline:

- Future Annual Meetings – D Bubeck
- NAPB Videos – D Bubeck (could use to promote Cornell as well as promote NAPB)
- Meeting with ACS Staff (TriSocieties) – D Bubeck

Web Editor Update – B Trampe

Ben indicated that due to a change of role he will be unable to continue as Web Editor especially in the light of a need for the website redesign. Subsequently Ben indicated he may be able to continue to do the more limited website maintenance role.

Options were discussed including finding another volunteer, outsourcing, or working with Dorrie Main at Washington State. All options require an understanding what is needed / involved in the website redesign, so it is important to gather ideas.

ACTION - Ksenija will pull together a group to share / collect ideas for new website (GSWG, Sarah Potts and others) and share with Dorrie.

Strategic Plan Review – It was agreed that members of the Strategic Plan Review Committee could have access leadership area.

ACTION – Ben to give Strategic Planning Group members access to the Leadership Area.

Meeting closed 14.07