

2022 BSA Members' Business Meeting

July 26, 2022

Anchorage, Alaska

Attending: Michael Donoghue, Heather Cacanindin, Ed Schneider, Ann Sakai, Amelia Neely, Richard Hund, Greg Pec, Tricia Jackson, Anitra Thorhaug, Jennifer Cruse-Sanders, Jennifer Hartley, Jill Spear, Arby Barrone, Tatiana Arias, Lauren Eserman, Maria Vogel, Ted Manning, Melanie Link-Perez, Lucinda McDade, Briana Gross, Amy McPherson, Pamela Diggle, Muriel Poston, Arthur Schwarz, Brenda Molano-Flores and several others for a total of 32 members.

AGENDA

Call to Order by President Michael Donoghue, and introductions are made.

Minutes of 2021 Business Meeting

Michael Donoghue proposed approval of the minutes, Lucinda McDade seconded. Approved.

Several reports from Board leadership and staff are considered. Board members are invited to make comments/highlights from their reports.

Michael Donoghue provides a brief overview and highlights from the past year. BSA is making progress on the implementation of several objectives in the strategic plan. Botany360 is a new professional development and communications tool used throughout the year. Michael welcomes the new APPS Editor-in-Chief, Briana Gross. He reminds the membership that the Society has been in negotiations for a new publications contract over the last year. In general publications around the world are moving to open access and this has budget consequences, especially for scientific-society publishers. In January 2023, the new Wiley publishing contract starts.

Investment and Finance committee members are all getting on the same page. Moving forward, we are deciding whether to make a draw on the investment account in order to fund the strategic plan and prepare for the decreased revenue from publications, based on Wiley's projections. BSA will want to start taking a 2% draw. We already have an agreement of up to a 4% draw, but haven't used that option yet.

He mentions that we have two grants with NSF- Botany and Beyond and F2:PlantingScience. In addition, BSA is involved with two funded LEAPS proposals, ROOT and SHOOT RCN with several plant-related societies and Indigenous Voices with AISES, ESA and Entomological Society. Much collaboration is going on across scientific societies.

There is a change to the Secretary position on the BSA Board. Chris Pires had stepped down so Norm Wickett has been appointed in the interim to fill out the remaining term.

Michael also mentions the anonymous gift toward an endowed Grad Student Research Award which was received in January 2022. It will fund a \$10,000 research award annually in comparative plant biology.

Jenny Cruse-Sanders talks about the Development Report. There is a need to increase the Legacy Society numbers and help raise endowment funds. She invites everyone to the Legacy Society Reception and to consider leaving a gift to the BSA when doing estate and financial planning. The impact of past gifts to our several award funds has been significant.

Melanie Link-Perez speaks about conference planning. This was our first hybrid conference. Conference organizers need to hear feedback so she encourages everyone to take the post-conference survey.

Lucinda McDade presents the Treasurer's Report.

FY2022 Budget to Actual
FY2023 Budget

Finances of BSA are strong. BSA is in a good position to weather the transition to a new contract with Wiley. The big difference for FY2023 budget is in the publications category, \$250,000 less income than previous years and a little more for expenses. Less up-front royalties. We are forecasting a conservative worst-case scenario. The Finance and Investment Committees as well as the Board are in favor of taking a 2-4% draw on the unallocated in the investment portfolio, as needed, to make up the shortfall in the budget.

This budget and draw on investment account is recommended for approval by the Board and Council. Seconded by Jenny Cruse-Sanders. Approved.

Michael Donoghue presents all the reports on the agenda for approval. Anitra Thorhaug seconded. Approved.

New business is presented including two recommendations related to membership rates for 2023.

Recommendation 1: recommendation to continue \$10 gift student memberships

Michael Donoghue moves to approve. Briana seconds the motion. Approved.

Recommendation 2: The BSA dues have not changed since 2014, and with decreasing publications revenue, along with increased inflation and rising costs for everything from software to travel, we believe that raising the following membership fees is necessary.

Professional One-Year Membership = **\$75** (was \$70)

Professional One-Year Membership with GSRA donation = **\$100** (was \$95) Professional One-Year Family Membership = **\$100** (was \$85)

Professional One-Year Family Membership with GSRA donation = **\$125** (was \$110)

Professional Three-Year Membership = **\$205** (was \$195)

Professional Three-Year Membership with GSRA donation = **\$280** (was \$270)

Professional Three-Year Family Membership = **\$280** (was \$240)

Professional Three-Year Family Membership with GSRA donation = **\$355** (was \$315)

Retired Membership = **\$40** (was \$35)

Retired Family Membership = **\$55** (was \$50)

Michael proposed to take it up and go forward with dues increased as laid out. Melanie Link-Perez seconded. Approved.

Michael Donoghue comments on how wonderful the society is, the great work being accomplished, and thanks the BSA staff and leadership.

Movement to adjourn. Michael Donoghue makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jenny Cruse-Sanders seconds. Approved.