

## 2019 BSA Business (Member) Meeting MINUTES

July 30, 2019

JW Marriott Starr Pass, Tucson, AZ

Call to Order – 4:47pm

### 1. Minutes of 2018 Business Meeting

- **MOTION & VOTE to approve July 24, 2018 minutes -> PASSED**

### 2. Reports

#### A. President (Andi Wolfe)

- Increased graduate student research awards (\$1k -> \$2k)
- Represented at Latin Botanical Congress with workshops with Wiley
- Recommending offering 3-year student membership
- Trying BOTANY conference childcare
- Reviewing investment strategies
- Lots of work in organizing and streamlining accounting

#### B. Treasurer (Lucinda McDade)

##### FY2019 Budget to Actual

- Oct 1 – Sept 30 FY; document online
- We are right on target on revenue and slightly behind on expenses
- Note that meetings expenses are happening now
- Grants appear underspent but that's because we have a no-cost extension

##### FY2020 Budget

- Print-out available at meeting (FY2020 against previous two years)
- Wiley arrangement is performing as hoped for
- Budget has been recommended for approval by Board and Council; we'll vote on this later

#### C. Publications, AJB and APPS (Sean Graham)

- Emily Sessa will replace him (Sean's last term)
- Wiley transition dominated his last term
  - They take care of marketing and subscriptions and we retained our staff
  - AJB & APPS Impact Factors went up (slightly)
  - They fund a strategic meeting and we're preparing to start a reviews series with a dedicated review editor
  - We extended terms of editors for Pam Diggie (AJB) and Mackenzie Taylor (PSB)
  - Significant thanks to Sean for work on the transition

#### D. Executive Director (Heather Cacanindin)

- Finances are healthy
- Financial audit required for FY2017 due to passing \$750k federal funding threshold due to grant funding
  - Very few findings and it has largely all been fixed since 2017
  - Renewing office contract for MoBot
- Amelia Neeley is the new Membership Coordinator

#### E. Elections Committee (Loren Rieseberg)

- Only had 20 nominations for 5 positions and many came from a single person; request that members nominate people to run for office
- Election committee ranks nominees and the top two are asked to run (if they agree)

- In the future all students nominated will run (if they agree)
- F. Investment Committee & Development Committee (Ned Friedman)
  - Large donation from Kaplan (Development)
  - Investment Committee had some turn-over and is more forward-looking and the endowment exceeding 5M is now substantial. We also have a pro bono investment expert on the committee as well as continuing to employ MorganStanley
- G. Education (Chris Martine)
  - Catrina & her team prepared the report and do amazing work
  - PlantingScience is a huge accomplishment and BSA should be proud of this offering

### 3. New Business

- A. Corresponding Members (Loren Rieseberg)
  - Five nominations were focused on developing countries; profiles are online; all but one from S. America
    - **MOTION & VOTE to approve all five nominated Corresponding Members -> PASSES**
  - Recommendation that we do a member vote to change the ByLaws to state that Corresponding Members serve a 10-year term to facilitate turn-over.
- B. Membership Rates (2020)
  - Recommendation to offer 3 Year Student Membership option at \$50; It's not going to be policed re: student status)
    - **MOTION & VOTE to adopt 3-year-membership for students -> PASSES**
  - Recommendation to continue \$10 student gift membership option
    - **MOTION & VOTE to adopt/continue \$10 student gift membership -> PASSES**
- C. FY2020 Budget
  - Conservative budget re: BOTANY 2020
  - Student awards reflects new grad student research
  - Goal is to break even with conference and there is cost-sharing with other societies
  - **MOTION & VOTE to adopt FY2020 budget -> PASSES**
- D. Gift Policy - for approval
  - Hard copy presented at meeting
  - BSA has accumulated about 50 accounts over the years that range tremendously in size (e.g., \$15) and some are inactive and/or their purpose is unknown. This is an administrative burden.
  - Key elements to the gift policy proposed are that for a permanently restricted fund (i.e., funds to be maintained in perpetuity) we have a minimum of \$25k initial balance, with an established donor agreement on file and a maximum 4% draw per Investment Policy (actual draw set by the BSA).
  - The Board, Investment Committee, and Council all recommend adopting this policy.
  - The interest is NOT permanently restricted but the interest is returned to the designated fund.
  - **MOTION & VOTE to adopt the new gift policy -> PASSES**

### 4. Acknowledgments of outgoing officers (President, Andi Wolfe)

- Loren Reiseburg, Past-President
- Sean Graham, Publications Director-at-Large
- Chelsea Pretz, Student Rep

- Erika Edwards, Advisor Council Chair (a position that has been eliminated and its function absorbed by the President)
- Exciting web design by IT in the works
- President, Andi Wolfe

5. Member Business

- State of Alaska has voted to zero out the budget on and likely sell a portion of the Alaska State Museum, which includes an herbarium), and we should draft a letter in opposition to this.

**MOTION & VOTE to adjourn – PASSES (Meeting adjourned 5:27pm)**