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)
      o Increased graduate student research awards ($1k -> $2k)
      o Represented at Latin Botanical Congress with workshops with Wiley
      o Recommending offering 3-year student membership
      o Trying BOTANY conference childcare
      o Reviewing investment strategies
      o Lots of work in organizing and streamlining accounting
   B. Treasurer (Lucinda McDade)
      FY2019 Budget to Actual
      o Oct 1 – Sept 30 FY; document online
      o We are right on target on revenue and slightly behind on expenses
      o Note that meetings expenses are happening now
      o Grants appear underspent but that’s because we have a no-cost extension
      FY2020 Budget
      o Print-out available at meeting (FY2020 against previous two years)
      o Wiley arrangement is performing as hoped for
      o Budget has been recommended for approval by Board and Council; we'll vote on this later
   C. Publications, AJB and APPS (Sean Graham)
      o Emily Sessa will replace him (Sean’s last term)
      o 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 Diggle (AJB) and Mackenzie Taylor (PSB)
        ▪ Significant thanks to Sean for work on the transition
   D. Executive Director (Heather Cacanindin)
      o Finances are healthy
      o 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
      o Amelia Neeley is the new Membership Coordinator
   E. Elections Committee (Loren Rieseberg)
      o Only had 20 nominations for 5 positions and many came from a single person; request
        that members nominate people to run for office
      o 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
o Erika Edwards, Advisor Council Chair (a position that has been eliminated and its function absorbed by the President)
o Exciting web design by IT in the works
o President, Andi Wolfe

5. Member Business
  o 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)