**The Canadian Society of Plant Biologists**

**La Société Canadienne de Biologie Végétale**

**CSPB-SCBV Annual Business Meeting - Minutes**

**Wednesday**

**August 26**

**2020**

**2:00 - 4:00 pm EDT**

**Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams**

1. Quorum (attendance taken)

David Bird

Robin Cameron

Daphne Goring

Isabel Desgagné-Penix

Douglas Muench

Eliana Gonzales-Vigil

Harold Weger

JB Charron

Mark Belmonte

Mendel Perkins

Moira Galway

François Ouleett

Owen Rowland

Sheila Macfie

Raju Soolanayakanahally

Peta Bonham-Smith

Eric Fedosejevs

Garrett Nunn

Geoff Wastenays

Heather McFarlane

Jollanda Effendy

Line Lapointe

Liz Brauer

Ian Major

Mehran Dastmalchi

Michael Stasiak

Olivia Wilkins

Qing-Lai Dang

Robert Mullen

Ryan Eng

Shelley Hepworth

Shelley Lumba

Steeve Pépin

Susanne Kohalmi

Ken Wilson

Amirhossein Jafari Bidhendi

Anja Geitmann

George Haughn

Bourlaye Fofana

Jennifer Hoogenboom

Mina Ghahremani

Annette Nassuth

Andre Laroche

Adam Mott

1. Accept agenda

**Motion:** Accept Agenda as distributed.Robin Cameron/Geoff Wastenays

**Carried**

1. Receive minutes of the 2019 Annual Business Meeting in Guelph ON

**Motion:** Accept 2019 minutes.Robin Cameron/Sheila Macfie

**Carried**

1. Reports of the Officers (includes Treasurer’s motions)
   1. President's Report (included in Agenda Package)
   2. Vice-President's Report (included in Agenda Package)
   3. Treasurer's Report (included in Agenda Package)

Question from the floor: have we not already provided Saskatoon with seed money?

* + - * No, funds weren't requested before the event was cancelled.

**Motion:** Accept 2019-2020 Report and approve 2020-2021 Budget. Sheila Macfie/Daphne Goring.  
**Carried.**

**Motion:** Contract Megan E Clements, CPA to complete compilation engagement and prepare tax returns for 2019.Sheila Macfie/Robin Cameron. **Carried**.

* 1. ERD Report (included in Agenda Package)
  2. WRD Report (included in Agenda Package)
  3. Student/PDF Representative's Report (included in Agenda Package)
  4. Education Director's Report
     1. Described one project: self-compatible Fast Plants
        + Offering germplasm & teaching resources to teachers GTA this Fall
        + 2021: will have teaching resources available from the CSPB website
        + Interested in being a "local stock centre" for your area?
  5. Communications Director's Report
     1. New website launch: End of September
        + New features:
          1. Membership registration
          2. Communication directly (email)
          3. Bulletin
          4. Educational portal
          5. Conference registrations
          6. Advertisements for positions
  6. Science Director's Report (included in Agenda Package)
     1. Summarized activities of PAGSE (CSPB-SCBV is a member of PAGSE)
        + Education group targeting Parliamentarians and Senators)
          1. Two flagship programs: "Bacon and Eggheads" breakfast series – invited speaker for Parliamentarians
          2. SciEng pages –summary of state of knowledge and policy around current issues
        + Recent recommendations to House of Commons
          1. Ensure post-COVID economic recovery use Sci&Engg approaches to build resiliency
          2. Invest in Research
          3. Invest in students

1. Business arising
   1. CSPB 2020 Award Announcements
      1. Mary E Spencer Award for 2020: Anja Geitmann
      2. CD Nelson Award for 2020: Mark Belmonte
      3. Carl Douglas Prize for 2020: Philip Carella
      4. Ragai Ibrahim Award for Best student paper for 2020: Mina Ghahremani, honorable mention: Sam Livingston
   2. CSPB-SCBV Proposed By-Law Amendments - to be voted upon. By-Law 11e – Annual Meeting of Members as a Virtual Meeting
      1. **Motion:** That the CSPB-SCBV members approve that the following new clause is added under By-Law 11 - Meeting of Members: e) The Board of Directors can make the decision to hold the annual meeting of members as a Virtual Meeting if deemed necessary.Daphne/Anja Geitmann. **Carried.**
   3. **Motion:** to withdraw CSPB membership from GPC (to be represented at GPC by Plant Canada instead).Daphne Goring/Raju Soolanayakanahally.

Question: Would this result in a loss of voting rights?

Answer: CSPB-SCBV would relinquish its voting rights in the GPC. For perspective: The US has a single representative, the ASPB. Plant Canada would represent the seven Canadian Plant Societies and will likely seek further funding from these societies to cover the GPC membership fees.

Question: Are there any other individual Canadian Plant societies as members?

Answer: No, only the CSPB-SCBV was an individual member.

Question: Optics of a founding member pulling out?

Answer: GW: can't comment on the optics, but this is a significant cost to the CSPB both in membership fees and the travel expenses to attend business meetings

Answer: SM: not really pulling out, we would still be represented by Plant Canada.

* 1. Future CSPB Meetings
     1. 2020 CSPB Virtual Meeting Nov 7, 12-6 EST
     2. 2021 CSPB Saskatoon
     3. 2022 Joint CSPB/ASPB Portland
     4. 2023

1. Election of officers (Senior Director Jean-Benoit Charron)
   1. Nominations for Western Regional Director (Doug Muench) and Secretary (David Bird) (appointments were extended until Aug 26th using By-law 6)
   2. Additional nomination
   3. **Motion:** Accept slate of nominations. Jean-Benoit Charron/Annette Nassuth. **Carried**.
2. Thanks to outgoing executive
   1. Thank you for Ryan Eng for your enthusiasm and creative ideas for workshops.
3. Other Business
4. Adjournment
   1. **Move to Adjourn**. Robin Cameron/Anja Geitmann. **Carried**.