

## Minutes of the American Pomological Society Business Meeting

Kona, HI, September 21, 2017

Michele Warmund, APS President, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. There were 34 members in attendance.

### Old Business

The APS Todd Einhorn (Secretary) disseminated 2016 minutes for review. Peter Hirst made motion to accept the minutes. David Karp, seconded the motion.

Nahla Bassil briefly discussed the 2017 tour. There were 34 attendees for the tour and fruit tasting – Michele Warmund thanked Nahla for her efforts.

Treasurer's report- Ed Hellman was not able to be present the report. In his absence, it was presented by Michele. ASHS is providing excellent service as our financial contractor. Heather Hilko has been outstanding collecting page charges. Assets were discussed, notably the ~\$37,044 invested in ATT stock. Expenses were \$8,285. Much of the expenses were associated with publishing costs of the Journal. At the completion of 2016, we had a positive balance of \$3,700 euros (~\$4,000 US) from ISHS. APS pays them a management fee approved in 2012. Marvin asked what the APS can expect to receive in remaining 2017 page charges (i.e., not yet collected).

Nahla made motion to accept report. The motion was seconded by Chad Finn.

Editor's report- Rich Marini was not able to attend. Michele related Rich's report: 22 papers published this year to date. The next issue of the journal is full. New manuscripts, if accepted, will be delayed until the April issue of 2018. Rich has difficulty with reviewers and encourages folks to accept reviews. Breeding and genetics reviewers have been especially difficult to find. Gennaro Fazio and John Preece both indicated they haven't been asked to review manuscripts and would be delighted to do so in this area. There has been an increase in international papers published.

### Awards

Peter Hirst presented the **U.P. Hedrick award**. Committee members were thanked (Dan Ward, Peter Hirst, Susan Brown, Essie Fallahi (Chair), Rob Crassweller). The paper awarded first place was, "Enabling Breeding for Brown Rot (*Monilinia* spp.) Resistance in Clemson University Peach Breeding Program" by Fu Wanfang, Ralph Burrell, Guido Schnabel and Ksenija Gasic. The paper awarded second place was "Root Distribution of 'Brightwell' and 'Premier Rabbiteye Blueberries as Influenced by Pecan Shell Mulch" by Ashley A. Hoppers, James D. Spiers, J. Raymond Kessler, Jr., Amy N. Wright, and Arlie A. Powell. Peter encouraged the submission of student papers for the Journal, including literature reviews as a review paper. Six papers were considered for the award. .

**P.H. Shepard award**- Richard Heerema presented in Chair's absence. APS members serving on this committee are Fumi Takeda (Chair), Ann Callahan, Kathy Demchak, Kim Patten, Juanita Popenoe, and Gregory Peck.

**Wilder Medal** – presented by Marvin Pritts. Ralph Scorza was awarded the 2017 Wilder Medal, which was accepted by John Cordts. Dr. Scorza thanked the Wilder selection committee and Society.

Registration of new fruit and nut cultivars. Ksenija and John Preece. List no. 49 will be published in 2018. Ksenija reported that Craig Ledbetter was working on the apricot list. Others were welcome to be involved to contribute. David Karp shared the searchable digital database scanned using Optical Character Recognition (OCR). The process can be difficult due to misspellings, etc. Julia Stover has scanned and is making excellent progress. The budget required will be \$7,000 to \$8,000. David will give a charitable contribution to ASHS to cover these funds. Dorrie Main's lab will import the data into a database and the data will appear on the APS website. The data are free to view. APS will suggest a contribution. Michele thanked David for his passion and generous contribution.

Membership. Michele stated that membership is declining. Peter Hirst suggested to approach people in their respective departments (given new hires) to join. Michele will email (near the end of the year) to encourage membership and remind those members in need of renewing memberships.

Peter Hirst presented a slate of nominees for open positions. Greg Peck was nominated to serve on the Executive Board and David Karp, Gina Fernandez, Ionnis Minas, Sarah Serra, Brent Black were nominated for the Advisory Committee. Des Layne made motion to accept these nominees for the positions stated. Ian Warrington seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

At last year's meeting the changes to the APS Constitution and Bylaws were presented. Michele Warmund called the vote. Vote was unanimous to accept changes.

### New Business

Nahla as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President organizes tours, workshops, etc. Michele asked for ideas for 2018 (Washington DC). David Karp suggested a tour by Kim Lewers regarding her berry breeding program. Marvin added that her high tunnel work would be interesting. Nahla suggested that the Federal Partners Interest Group is organizing a tour of Beltsville. Michele mentioned Monticello as a possibility. Michele asked whether members wished to have a tour. There was general agreement in support of a tour. A tour would need to be decided by December, 2017. Michele urged members to please contact Nahla with ideas.

Michele raised the need to address the backlog of papers in the Journal, especially important for graduate students needing to develop their publication record. One solution is to add an additional issue per year. Alternatively, we have the option to add eight additional pages to each issue. Additionally, the Journal currently only has one ad. Increase revenue by increasing advertisements. Penelope (Penny) Perkins (Chair of the Editorial committee) will ask folks that work with nurseries or advertisers to reach out to industries to generate additional ads. Greg Reighard asked for the charges to be provided. Michele listed the charges based on page area [\$90 (full page), \$55 (1/2 page), \$35 (1/4 page), \$25 (1/6<sup>th</sup> page)]. Penny was asked to find 10 new advertisers. Gennaro is happy to do this but not from professional position (COI). Reighard asked what a page costs the Society to print. It was estimated that it would cost \$1,325 for printing charges per issue if increased to 72 pages. Presently there are 240 members. Peter suggested that a website ad be included along with print ad. Marvin requested page charge data be broken down in published pages by nonmembers vs. members. Ian Warrington indicated (from memory) less than 15% were nonmembers. Ian also suggested that postage cost was possibly prohibitive when increasing to 72 pages. Gennaro suggests that as papers are accepted, put out a DOI and publish online. John Preece indicated that DOI is not being done at the moment and will require an additional charge.

Ian says there is an agreement with ISHS; online papers, prior to print, will require a new contract. Chad Finn suggested Penny's group puts together a template to outline the details regarding potential ads. Penny will assemble a committee. Michele requested members contact Penny to contribute. Ian moves that the meeting approve, in principle, that the journal increase pages. Chad seconded the motion. The motion unanimously carried.

Michele was contacted by Patrick Randal from the Biodiversity Heritage Library concerning historical document digitation of APS publications. They offered a contract if APS wished to share journals issues with them for any number of years (i.e., from 1976, etc., or as the Fruit Var J 1946-1976). Michele asked how far back the Proceedings of APS went. Kim Hummer state that proceedings were digitized. Nahla suggested that we ask ISHS how far back articles were being downloaded. Ian mentioned that he used to receive those data annually from ISHS. David suggested that ISHS have exclusive rights to recent articles. Articles dating prior to 1932 are freely accessible. Michele will discuss among Executive Board and take further action through email.

Other new business requested by Michele.

Greg Reighard. ISHS four-year Hort Congress will be held next year in Turkey. Greg mentioned the symposia relevant to this group. Pre and post tours – fruit production in Turkey is notable. Encouraged folks to attend. Dates are August 12-16, 2018.

John Preece made the motion to reappoint our resident agent, Wes Autio, given that we are incorporated in Massachusetts. The motion was seconded by Gennaro and approved by the membership.

Gennaro made motion to adjourn – Michele adjourned meeting 7:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Todd Einhorn, Secretary