



WSWS Board Meeting Minutes

Prepared by Curtis Rainbolt, WSWS Secretary

March 9, 2015

Portland Hilton

Portland, OR

Board Members (past and present) in attendance: Joe Yenish, Jane Mangold, Corey Ransom, Ed Davis, Brian Jenks, Kirk Howatt, Sandra McDonald, Curtis Rainbolt, Drew Lyon, Marty Schraer, Prashant Jha, Mike Hubbard, and Scott Nissen. Business Manager Phil Banks was also present.

The meeting was called to order by Joe Yenish at 11:45 am

Brief introductions were made around the room. New Board members were welcomed.

Annual Meeting Review

Most people felt that the hotel was a very good choice and that the meeting rooms worked well. The time gap between the business breakfast and start of morning sessions was longer than ideal. However based on past experience it can be difficult to determine when the business meeting might run longer.

Presentations. Compared to last year there were very few presentation issues. One of the keys is early online submission of presentations so that program chairs can verify that the presentations display correctly.

Site Selection Committee. Stephen Colbert was present to discuss activities of the site selection committee. Discussion focused on the California venues in Sacramento, San Diego, and Anaheim. They are still waiting on one more RFP for Sacramento, but the one they have appears to be for a good hotel that is very close to Old Town Sacramento which has many good dining and entertainment options. This location also might draw in California state employees. At this point, Sacramento is the front runner for the 2018 meeting.

Date for Summer Board Meeting

The dates of July 30, 31 or Aug 10-14 appear to work best for the majority of the group. The goal is for a noon start on day 1 and a noon finish on day 2. Phil Banks will check with the hotel and confirm dates.

Addendum- The summer board meeting is confirmed for a noon start on Wednesday July 30 and ending at noon on July 31 in Albuquerque.

Committee Appointment Status and General Discussion- Joe Yenish

Committee appointments are starting to come in.

Committee Discussions

Brian Jenks recommended combining the herbicide resistant plants and education committees since both have an educational focus and the education committee is looking for a charge. Discussion took place and it was determined that the committees could work together but no formal action would be taken to combine them at this point.

2016 Symposium Ideas. One idea is to have Kaci Buhl who spoke at the Education and Regulatory session at this meeting be part of a symposium on how to speak about science to the general public. It was suggested that Andrew Kniss could speak on how to talk about GMO's with the general public. Other ideas focused on how to increase local attendance in Albuquerque with topics such as vegetation management. If this symposium is developed in time it could be advertised at July and November New Mexico weed meetings. Another potential topic was on the use of drones for mapping. It was suggested to talk to Tim Prather about mapping technologies and the possibility of having someone from Sandia Labs speak on mapping technologies. A potential tie in to mapping would be the effect of global warming on plant and weed distribution.

New Business

Hosting the 2016 North America Invasive Species Forum in Albuquerque. The tabled item was again discussed. While there is potential interest in hosting them, we first need to see if the hotel in Albuquerque has space and if the logistics are feasible. The item will be readdressed at the summer board meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm.