

**Western Forest Genetics Association
Biennial General Meeting
Whistler, BC, July 25, 2013**

Minutes

Call to order by Andreas Hamann at 5:15

Attendees:

Andreas Hamann	Marc Rust
Andy Bower	Charlie Cartwright
Greg O'Neill	Larry Miller
Brad St. Clair	Deogratias Rweyongeza
Jack Woods	Sally Aitken

1. Andreas Hamann (current President) presented the agenda for the meeting – no objections were raised.
2. Andy Bower (current Vice President/Secretary) presented the minutes from the 2009 and 2011 business meetings
 - Greg O'Neil moved to accept the minutes
 - Charlie Cartwright 2nd
 - Minutes accepted by unanimous vote
3. Brad St. Clair (current Treasurer) presented the financial report. (see attached)
4. Jack Woods gave an update that there was likely to be a surplus of approximately \$9000 from the 2013 WFGA/CFGGA meeting that would be split 50/50 by the two organizations
5. Because of the anticipated surplus the idea was raised and agreed upon to pay the 2013 Critchfield Awards out of the checking account rather than from the OSU Foundation account
6. A discussion was held regarding student sponsorships for future meetings similar to what CFGA
 - Sally Aitken suggested listing this information on the meeting website
 - Andy Bower moved to offer a student registration waiver for future meetings with the amount and number of sponsorships to be determined by the organizing committee based on meeting cost and student response
 - Jack Woods 2nd
 - Accepted by unanimous vote
7. Sally Aitken moved that the Critchfield Award be changed to a cash award effective 2013.
 - Brad St. Clair raised the point that the criteria for the award has already been given to the OSU Foundation so that may need to be updated
 - Andy Bower raised the point that the award for 2013 is to be paid from the checking account so it may not matter
 - Greg O'Neill 2nd
 - Movement accepted by unanimous vote
8. 2015 Meeting
 - Andreas Hamann mentioned that WFGA usually alternates between the US and Canada and CFGA usually alternates between eastern and western Canada.

Andy Bower suggested that for the 2015 meeting an invitation should be extended to the SFTIC group to meet jointly with WFGA. Barb Crane agreed to propose this idea to the SFTIC steering committee.

Andy Bower suggested the Seattle/Olympia area as a location for the 2015 meeting.

Greg O'Neill suggested that we try to combine with other groups to increase attendance, other possible groups mentioned: Evo-WIBO, SFTIC, Western Mensurationists, NWSOMA or some type of hybrid.

1st choice would be to meet jointly with SFTIC

2nd choice would be to meet jointly with Western Mensurationists

9. 2017 meeting

Andreas suggested that the 2017 meeting be held in Alberta in combination with CFGA.

Possible locations mentioned were Edmonton and Banff

10. New Vice President/Secretary

Andreas Hamann nominated Deogratias Rweyongeza

Sally Aitken 2nd

Deogratias elected by unanimous vote

Andreas asked for feedback on the VP/Secretary election process. In recent years the process has been to approach potential candidate(s) ahead of time to ask if they are willing to serve ahead of the business meeting.

There was general agreement that soliciting a new VP/Secretary worked well

Andreas Hamann agreed to update and maintain the WFGA website indefinitely.

He will need to be given access to the server where the site is maintained.

Charlie Cartwright asked if some additional content could be added to the WFGA website, including:

History

Award winners

Officers

Meeting abstracts

The Critchfield Memorial Scholarship awards for 2013 were given to:

PRESENTATION AWARD: Chen Ding – University of Alberta. Sub-optimal populations: Postglacial refugia-induced melting pot of *Populus tremuloides*.

POSTER AWARD: David Montwé – University of Freiburg, Germany. "Tree ring analysis indicated genetic component in drought response of Douglas-fir."

Meeting Adjourned 6:10

Recorded by Andrew Bower; Vice President/Secretary