Minutes - Small Fruit CGC 10/25/2016

Dr. Pat Moore

Virginia Beach, Virginia

1:30 pm

1. CGC Administrative
   1. Roll Call
   2. Minutes
   3. Membership

Steve Knapp – said no to an invitation from Kim Lewers.

Kyle VandenLangenberg - no response from Kyle,

another possible new member is Pat Edger at MSU

Jim Olmstead will continue

2013 members,

Penelope Perkins-Veazie willing to continue,

Andrew Jamieson retiring, not continuing

Nicholi Vorsa if responds, would like to have on committee

An option if Nicholi – accept if agrees, another option is cranberry breeder at Wisconsin

* 1. Next meeting, Pennsylvania State University

Kim Lewers proposed conducting committee administrative responsibilities by email/conference call outside of the CGC meeting whenever possible. These include review of the minutes, amendments to the bylaws, voting on membership and chair, and evaluations of plant germplasm collection proposals and germplasm evaluation proposals. In addition, some work on the vulnerability statements can be handled through e-mails/conference calls.

Members agreed that some CGC functions are best handled in person at NCCC212 meetings (separate from the NCCC212 meeting). These include discussions of possible new members, vulnerability statements, and exploration or evaluation proposals when possible.

Members agreed that holding some activities in conjunction with NCCC212 attendees would benefit the National Germplasm System. These include review of the annual reports from NPS, NGRL and NCRG, germplasm collecting “classes” and hands-on workshops.

Chad suggested that, for the next meeting, we hold the CGC meeting the afternoon/evening before the NCCC212 meeting starts. Nobody strongly disagreed at the time, so Kim Lewers was to inform next year’s NCCC212 host.

1. Small Fruit Breeding programs

Andrew Jamieson is retiring 9 May 2017 and does not believe his position or program are at risk.

Breeding programs in general – Several members expressed concern that breeding programs in general may be losing some capabilities. Breeding positions are being refilled with people emphasizing molecular research, breeding positions are being combined, breeders are told they must rely on outside funding, and there is less emphasis on germplasm enhancement and breeding. However, it was pointed out that some states have increased effort recently.

1. CGC germplasm evaluation grants

No word yet on funding from ONP.

Kim Lewers asked Kim Hummer if there were priority collections that she felt needed evaluation. Kim Hummer e-mailed and told the members about a proposal she would like to submit that would fund assistance with data entry. The proposal requests the Small Fruits CGC members submit manuscripts and/or data to Kim Hummer and she would have the data entered. The funds would pay for people who could enter the data. **file attached** - Priority Evaluations Data input into GRIN-Global

There was some concern that this was not a typical proposal type and no plant material would be evaluated. However, the Members strongly support Kim Hummer’s curation efforts and wanted to be supportive of this proposal. However they didn’t want to lose out on an opportunity for funding by submitting something that would be “dead on arrival.”

Kim Lewers said she would contact someone at the Office of National Programs about possible support of this type of proposal. If this type of proposal is not supported, she would ask Kim Hummer if she feels there is priority germplasm to evaluate, then ask the members if they wish to evaluate germplasm, or if we should submit a previous proposal that was edged out in the year of submission, or disseminate a call for proposals.

IV. Other business:

Kim Hummer presented “Germplasm Collection 101” at the NCCC212 meeting Oct. 24. Kim Lewers reported there was much enthusiasm from attendees and other NCCC212 attendees about continuing this effort in future years.

V. Annual Reports

NPS: No National Program Leader was present to comment on the report or lead discussion, but the report was circulated before the meeting.

NGRL: Karen Williams (on conference call line) touched on the highlights of the NGRL Annual Report.

NCGR: Kim Hummer said she e-mailed the Members the NCGR Annual Report, and, instead of going over all of it, asked the Members specific questions for which she wanted feedback. Some highlights:

NCGR could not afford to fill the position Barbara Reed retired from, so the position (Category 1 SY position) was eliminated. Kim Hummer asked for feedback on how best to respond to requests for germplasm in tissue culture with the Barbara Reed position eliminated. Should we distribute tissue culture plants to foreign requests? Should we give germplasm to a third party that would produce tc plants and send to foreign country? Other repositories do not send tc material to other countries. Should we charge if there is commercial intent? Treat differently for commercial and research? For many countries tc is required. Kim Hummer thanked the Members for their feedback on these questions which can be summarized by the Members trusting Kim Hummer to determine what to do on a case-by-case basis.

Kim Hummer asked the Members for protocol advice on how to increase the number of red raspberry roots so more could be distributed? How to produce more roots? The Members suggested she obtain advice from outside researchers and commercial propagators, and that, with changes in staff, she can restructure responsibilities.

Kim Hummer proposed the concept of requesting a collection trip to Chile in January 2018, to help fill a gap in materials from the very southern region of Chile. Kim Hummer may consider instead the idea of contacting Chilean researchers and contract with them to collect for NCGR.

Vulnerability statements

Raspberry – Michael Dossett has begun revisions for raspberry and blackberry

Next year Kim Hummer will lead efforts on blackberry and cranberry

VI. Motion to adjourn Andrew Jamieson, second Michael Dossett, Adjourn 3:30 pm