

ESA Eastern Branch Final Business Meeting, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Monday, 17 March 2003 Meeting Minutes (prepared by R. R. Youngman)

Officers present: Susan Whitney, George Hamilton, Rod Youngman, and Brian Nault

At 5:00 pm Susan called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to Harrisburg and the Final Business Meeting. She noted that only 22 persons were present. A minimum of 40 members is necessary to constitute a quorum.

Her first order of business was to recognize Z B Mayo and Paula Lettice. Susan then asked for additions to the agenda. No additions to the agenda were voiced. Susan moved to her next order of business, which was changes to the Eastern Branch Bylaws. She said these changes had gone to the Executive Committee last summer and to the Rules Committee (Colwell Cook, Chair). Three changes to the Bylaws were posted at this meeting (i.e., 2003 Harrisburg Meeting). Susan explained the changes to the Bylaws and said the motion does not require a second.

The first change is to allow the Governing Board Representative to have the option to serve two consecutive three-year terms. The advantage of this change is to provide the branch more flexibility in getting someone to fill the position. She then opened the floor to discussion.

Alan Cameron asked Susan to read the provision on amendments to the Bylaws (Article VI Amendments to Bylaws, Section 5). Susan read the provision (see below text) and then said the changes to the Bylaws were approved at the Virginia Beach Annual Meeting in 1999.

Article VI, Section 5. Voting, majority requirement, and effective date.

“Each proposed amendment shall be voted upon either at a business meeting of The Branch, or by a mail ballot, pursuant to Article V, Section 3. A two-thirds majority of the members voting shall be required for approval. A proposed amendment shall become effective upon approval unless a later effective date is specified in the motion for adoption or in the mail ballot.”

Alan asked if a copy of the minutes from the Virginia Beach Meeting was available. After brief discussion, it was concluded that a copy of the Virginia Beach minutes was not available. Susan then started to say that Shields and Stoetzel suggested we make this change to initiate...at this point Susan was interrupted by Alan who said, “What is the existing provision in the Bylaws to change the Bylaws?” Susan began to speak, but was interrupted again by Alan who said, “You give me no choice but to call ‘A Point of Order’, which is all encompassing.” He said we can discuss other issues, but we can no longer discuss the previous issue. Susan then accepted his Point of Order, and George

said this issue has been tabled.

Brief discussion followed on the term of office of the Governing Board Representative. Alan said he supports a single 3-year term for the Governing Board Representative, because it gives more members a chance to serve the branch in that capacity. A second suggested change was to allow the branch president to appoint committee chairs and committee chairs will secure their own committee members. This would return to the way it used to be where elections were not required. Alan said the problem was how to replace ineffective individuals. He said there needs to be safeguards for removing ineffective individuals. The new approach allows individuals to serve for only three years.

Z B then spoke about his concern on the loss of members, and said we need to start working on membership services. He suggested we review ESA's strategic plan in the March Newsletter.

Paula Lettice next discussed the ongoing sale of the ESA office building. The building is still for sale and has been on the market for three years. She then spoke about ESA's finances dating back to 1999. ESA lost \$100,000 in 1999, \$400,000 in 2000, ended \$18,000 in the black in 2001, and will have more than broken even in 2002. ESA needs to cover an additional \$100,000 inflation deficit per year. She said 'Motion 5', eliminated many things ESA used to do. The directors of marketing and selling were combined, and a chief financial officer was added. There has been a two month backlog in membership, but this problem has now been fixed. Membership was down 6% and was largely attributed to the dues increase, but student membership was not affected. ESA is moving to an all electronic membership. She added that electronic balloting gives voting results instantly where it previously took four people two days to tally the ballots.

Report of the Governing Board Representative: Brian Nault

Brian reported on highlights from his 14-20 November 2002 Governing Board Meeting. He said manuscripts can now be submitted on-line through the Rapid Review System, which recently became operational. He said that four handbooks in ESA's Pest Handbook series are in progress, and that ESA has requested authors to submit a final draft by 1 June 2003. All future requests to develop an ESA Pest Handbook will have to be approved by the ESA Governing Board. Brian then spoke about annual meetings and said the biggest change for future meetings is the move to all PowerPoint presentations. In addition, pre-registration meeting fees for all members and guests will remain at the 2002 level, but all other rates will increase slightly. Paula commented this is because it costs a lot of administrative time and effort to register people on-site.

Brian then reported on the slight increase in membership dues to \$128 per person for full members; \$31 for students; \$64 for emeritus and student transition I; and \$96 for student transition II. His final comments were on the new

Associate Certified Entomologist (ACE) program. The ACE program is scheduled to be implemented later in 2003.

Treasurer's Report: George Hamilton

George said well over 200 people have registered for this year's meeting. He said the 2004 meeting will be in New Haven, CT, and the 2005 meeting site has not been determined. George briefly discussed the 30 June 2002 Financial Statement. As of 1 July 2001, the General Fund totaled \$22,895.81. Combining the General Fund amount with the \$17,045.35 in receipts, less the \$14,865.23 in disbursements, the General Fund balance as of 1 June 2002 was \$25,075.93. George said our Reserve Fund balance as of 31 May 2002 was \$31,932.80. Overall, the total funds available to the branch as of 31 May 2002 was \$57,008.73.

Alan Cameron raised a question about the \$6,762.70 in expenses for the Executive Committee. Alan felt this was an excessive amount of money to be spent by that committee. George responded that very little of the \$6,762.70 was spent by Executive Committee officers. He said most of the money was spent on summer planning meetings and student rooms at the 2002 annual meeting in Ocean City, MD.

Secretary's Report: Rod Youngman

Rod was asked by Susan to read the names of recently deceased Eastern Branch members. After reading the names, Rod asked all present to rise and observe a moment of silence out of respect and remembrance of these individuals for their involvement and contributions to the Eastern Branch.

John J. Pratt, Jr.
G. W. Simpson
James Forbes
J. F. Hanley
H.H.J. Nesbitt
Richard H. Daggy
Charles E. Palm
Murray T. Pender
Richard H. Foote
Beckford Coon
Michael Villani
George Angalet
Tom Wood

Nominations Committee: Peter Shearer, not present

Registration and Hospitality Committee: Tom Anderson

Tom reported that the total number of registrants for the 2003 meeting was 217. Of the total registered, 111 were regular members, 51 were student members,

and 13 were corporate sponsors.

Susan then presented George Hamilton with a plaque recognizing him for his dedicated service as Treasurer to the Entomological Society of America Eastern Branch from 2001-2003.

Z B Mayo then presented Susan Whitney with a plaque recognizing her as the 2002-03 President of the Entomological Society of America Eastern Branch.

Alan Cameron briefly discussed ESA's Rapid Review system. He said there are currently about five papers in rapid review. Start to finish review times for manuscripts have been as short as 29 days and as long as 60 days. The main problem with the review process is the difficulty in getting reviewers to say yes.

Susan asked those present if there were any additional business items that needed to be discussed. None were offered. Susan made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.