

**Executive Committee
Minutes, Email Vote
Sept 30, 2022**

Through an email vote, the Executive Committee considered two issues.

First, the Executive Committee considered making the Early Career Professional Development Ad Hoc Committee into a “Standing” or Regular committee of the organization.

Over one year ago, the Board created an ad hoc committee on early career professional development. This committee was created to address needs born out of the new strategic plan and at the request of the student reps would help them to design student and early career programming throughout the year. Three members were named to the committee – Ben Blackman, Karolina Heyduk and Miranda Sinnott-Armstrong – and the two student reps were to also serve as committee members. In their first year, they worked with our student reps and also created programming for Botany 360 such as GRFP workshops, Applying to Graduate School Panel/Q&A, and a Careers in Government webinar with several speakers. The group has many ideas, but needs more hands.

The Executive Committee voted to approve making this committee a BSA Standing/Regular Committee and appointing 1-2 more members as soon as possible. We will issue an open call this fall and accept applications for those who are interested and the Committee on Committees could consider those applications right away.

The second item considered was whether BSA should back/support the book *The Garden Next Door?*

Colin Pine, children’s book author, reached out and asked if the Botanical Society of America would be willing to be listed in *The Garden Next Door’s* "Neighborhood of Support." Basically, the Neighborhood of Support is a collection of nonprofits, botanical gardens, mission-driven nurseries, and professional organizations who back *The Garden Next Door’s* theme (gardening for wildlife with native plants!) and give the book their stamp of approval. He will be including the Neighborhood of Support as part of the promotional campaign for the book, so when people (including librarians and educators) see the book online or in promotional pieces, they'll also see the list of supporters. Since launching the Neighborhood of Support, the Monarch Joint Venture, New York Bee Sanctuary, and the Pollinator Posse have joined.

BSA has not supported or endorsed books in the past, but this seemed like it could align with our mission and these goals of our strategic plan.

10.3 Highlight BSA members’ expertise and the centrality of plants in solving pressing environmental and societal problems.

10.4 Engage with the public to promote curiosity and appreciation for plants, nature and science.

The Executive Committee voted and this item needs more discussion outside of an email vote and can be considered at an upcoming meeting if desired.