

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting of PSI 2024

Held at TutheSky, Getreidemarkt 9, Building BA, Vienna on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August 2024

Members and family present during the conference (family and a few others absent at AGM)

▪ Markus Varga + Nina	Austria
▪ Robert Stepany	Austria
▪ Werner Neumuller	Austria
▪ Lubos Otapka + Lucia + 2 daughters	Austria
▪ Emilia Schulman + Peter + daughter	Finland
▪ Maria Kozlova	Germany
▪ Raphael Maier	Germany
▪ Robert Dostal	Germany
▪ Martin Drews	Germany
▪ Oliver Czernia	Germany
▪ Sabrina Berger	Germany
▪ Jan Rasche	Germany
▪ Francesco Landi	Italy
▪ Maurizio Vecchia + Clara	Italy
▪ Tineke van Ooijen	Netherlands
▪ Arjen Lommen	Netherlands
▪ Rob McPhail	Netherlands
▪ Yero Kuenthe	NZ
▪ Eladio Gonzalez + Cris + son	Spain
▪ Robert Rice	UK
▪ John Vanderplank + Penny	UK
▪ Dusha Hayes	UK
▪ Neil Gale	UK
▪ Brooks Scharff	USA

- John Vanderplank called the meeting called to order at 3:24pm CEST at,
- Prior meeting minutes (Austin 2023) were approved without objection
- Robert Rice provided a report on premium membership numbers
  - There is a general upward trend. As of June 2024, the number is 192 premium members.
  - North America membership has stayed steady at 89 members, but Europe has grown by +14 members. We gained two more members from China and one from Australia.
  - Up-to-date PSI balance is the equivalent of EUR\$ 16,490.
  - A P&L statement was displayed and displayed that we are relatively steady on finances.
- Brooks gave an update on the website, explaining that we moved web and email hosting providers and the website should have better performance now.

- Robert Rice gave an update explaining that Christopher Taube had to step down as Registrar and Robert himself has been handling the duties in the meantime. He announced that Raphael Maier will be taking over as Registrar starting in 2025.
- Brazil trip: discussed a trip to Brazil and did a quick poll on who would be likely to go. An online poll will likely follow to gather the group's thoughts.
- Seedbank update by Robert Dostal: The same donors appear to be donating seeds every year. We are encouraging EVERYONE to please donate seeds.
- Newsletter: 442 people are subscribed to the newsletter, after 10 unsubscriptions. We are averaging 1 newsletter send per month. The emails tend to have slightly about a 58% open rate.
- Grants Committee by Markus Varga: Markus gave a brief overview of what the Grants Committee does. This year, \$2000 was budgeted for grants. 2 grants have been given out. The first one was to Yero to travel to Bolivia. Second grant was to Stephen(?) who travelled to Guatemala.
- Markus had nothing to add about Conservation.
- Robert Rice discussed activities for 2024, which include needing additional volunteers, perhaps for a Membership Manager. We desperately need a Treasurer who has been an Accountant.
- John Vanderplank asked for volunteers to write Plant Profiles, perhaps one on *Passiflora lutea*.
- Robert Dostal asked the status of registering PSI as a charity. Robert Rice indicated that no progress has been made due to personal health reasons, but we are still planning on doing it. He emphasized that we need a Treasurer to help with this if we want it done in a reasonable amount of time.
- John Vanderplank asked that we all thank Robert Rice for all he has done to help organize PSI.
- John Vanderplank called the meeting to a close at 4:00pm CEST.
- It was followed by a presentation session

Brooks Scharff, with a few edits by Robert Rice  
 August 2024/May 2025