**TAAA Board of Directors Open Meeting Minutes: Aug. 9, 2023**

The teleconference Zoom Board open meeting was called to order at 6:30PM, M. Smith, President, presiding. Board members present: E. Foley, Vice President; B. Whitehead, Treasurer; R. Reynolds, Secretary and Members-at-Large J. Kalas, D. Rossetter, Suzanne Bailey, as well as TAAA Members: John Mead, Jim Knoll, Martin Hale, Pete Hermes, Ross Carnes.

**Approval of Minutes:**

* The June 21, 2023 were amended to correct the start date of new insurance policy from April 1, 2023 to May 1, 2023. As a result, a motion was made by E. Foley to approve the amended June 21, 2023 Board minutes and approve the July 12, 2023 minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by S. Bailey. The motion was approved by a vote of 7-0.

**Presidents Report**:

* President advised Board of a recent request for TAAA to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement for a star party. As a result of this new requirement, E. Foley has been designated to sign such agreements for TAAA.
* It was announced that David Rossetter is resigning from chairing the Recognition and IT committees. As a result, TAAA needs to find new volunteers for these positions. It was pointed out that it would be preferred to find new names for these positions in order to spread responsibilities more widely across the membership.
* Membership, now at 788(!), is showing more interest in membership statistics as well as Board member contact information. A brief discussion followed on possible recognitions if TAAA achieves 1,000 membership number.
* Board members should send membership related questions to David Rossetter and he will research in Member Planet database.

**Treasurers Report**:

* The Treasurer began with a summary level review of balance sheet. Total assets were $1,360,923. It was noted that negative balances were corrected at month end with transfers from money market accounts.
* Net operating revenue for July was $13,737. Given July is first month of fiscal year, the YTD is the same as the current month.
* No budget report this month due to accounting issues which will be fixed next month.
* Cash on hand is $259,235.
* E. Foley then made a motion to approve the Treasurers Report and the motion was seconded by B. Reynolds. The motion then passed by a vote of 7-0.

**Review of Old Business:**

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| **TAAA Board Action Item List as of 08/9/23** | |  |  |
| **Date** |  | **Date** |  |
| **Entered** | **Item** | **Completed** | **Comments** |
| 11/9/22 | Volunteer of the Month Award |  | David Rossetter, Comm Chair starting to collect volunteer data |
| 3/9/23 | Clarification of Minor Policy Incident Report | 8/9/23 | Mae discussed concerns with Terri |
| 3/9/23 | Develop TAAA vendor & affiliate listings | Long Term | Mae/Barbara to resume wk after budget/ins complete by end Oct |
| 6/6/23 | Bok Award |  | Kalas working on write-up for Sept/Oct general member mtg |
| 6/6/23 | Close out & transfer safe deposit box | by Dec 1 | Barbara |
| 6/6/23 | Term limit recommendations |  | NVRC is working on member vote in Sept/Oct |
| 6/21/23 | Follow up with TIMPA/City re sublease |  | Ben Bailey, John Mead |
| 6/21/23 | John Mead to work with City/TIMPA re lease/permit status |  | John Mead working with TIMPA to find related documents |
|  | Any Learning Center follow ups??? |  |  |
| 8/9/23 | Membership questions to be submitted to D. Rossetter |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

* Bok award needs to put into member meeting schedule for either Sept or Oct.

**CAC/32” DFM Telescope Project**:

* The DFM project actively working many items. Mirror has been sent to UofA mirror lab for evaluation. Working with Ash Dome to inventory dome parts. Met with outside consultant to discuss foundation and observatory design questions. Toured observatories built by contractor we will likely use. Held a meeting of an advisory panel which concurred with 3 phase construction approach. Held a meeting of the fund-raising committee.
* A motion was made by E. Foley to approve the following naming rights for the Eye on the Galaxy funding campaign:
  + $20,000 to name observatory
  + $15,000 to name telescope
  + $5,000 name cited on observatory plaque
  + $1,000 name cited in Bulletin
* The motion was seconded by R. Reynolds. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.
* After some research on available attendees and transportation, Nov 11 was proposed as the date for the CAC open house.
* A motion was made to fix Nov 11 as the date for the open house and to not exceed $700 in payment for bus transportation. Motion was seconded by E. Foley who also announced that there was an anonymous donation of $1,000 to fund the bus transportation service. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.
* It was noted passengers can eat on the bus but TAAA will not provide meals. It was also noted that the Triple T restaurant can provide food before bus departure.
* A work team is scheduled for 17th and 18th of August to lay rugs and spread gravel.

**TIMPA**:

* The 14” telescope has been fixed by Starizona and is back on site.
* A new cover will be purchased for the 14”.
* We are checking for recent wind damage.
* The City has requested drawing of new pad for 16” as well as agreement to remove facilities upon completion of (TIMPA?) lease. John Mead is going to follow up with the City for several clarifications. However, the Board is supportive of a removal agreement if TAAA is considered an effective co-lessee with TIMPA.
* There were several questions regarding TIMPA’s viability and commitment as well as the City’s rights to terminate TIMPAs lease. John Mead will also discuss with City TAAA’s rights and responsibilities to any TAAA improvements should TIMPA’s lease be terminated.
* It was noted that the City can terminate the TIMPA lease for any reason with a 90 day notice and that the current TIMPA lease is up for renewal in 2025.(1:46:42)

**Position Descriptions**:

* The Handbook Committee proposed the deletion of several obsolete positions such as Boy Scout Merit Badge Coordinator, Funding Raising Working Group Coordinator, Video Manager, Desert Skies Journal Quarterly Publication Editor, and Monthly Bulletin Publication Editor.
* The Desert Skies Bulletin Editor was proposed as a new position.
* The Bookkeeper position was evaluated for elimination but it was decided that it was advisable to maintain as backup to the Treasurer.
* A motion was put forward by R. Reynolds to approve the cited positions changes. It was seconded by S. Bailey. Discuss followed on need for Board approval of changes to position descriptions. The motion was withdrawn.
* A motion was put forward by E. Foley to eliminate Board approval of position descriptions, elimination or development of position descriptions. This Motion intends to shift responsibility for these activities to the Handbook Committee. The motion was seconded by R. Reynolds. Discussion included need for Handbook Committee to publish existing position descriptions. The motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

**NVRC Report**:

* The NVRC presented draft of the proposed term limits presentation that will be given to the membership in the October member meeting. Presentation included exact language previously approved by Board.
* Clarified that new term limits apply to current Board members.
* A recommendation was made to use OpaVote and incur a related $50 fee. It was felt that fee was approved in annual budget so required no further Board approval. Voting will be opened a week early and closed at 7PM on the day of the Oct member meeting. Approval requires 2/3 of the vote of voting membership.

**Library Items**:

* Discussion of library policy for non-returned items were deferred to allow additional discussion.

A motion was put forward by E. Foley to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by D. Rossetter. The motion was approved 7-0 and the Board meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.