

TAAA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes: Aug 10, 2022

The teleconference Zoom Board meeting was called to order at 6:34 PM, M. Smith, President, presiding. Board members present: D. Smith, Vice President; B. Whitehead, Treasurer; R. Reynolds, Secretary; and Members-at-Large, J. Kalas, G. Gomez and D. Rossetter as well as TAAA Members: J. Knoll, R. Carnes, J. Mead

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made by D. Smith and seconded by B. Whitehead to approve the minutes, as amended, for the July 13, 2022 regular Board meeting. The motion as passed by a vote of 7-0.

President's Report:

- The general membership voted 51-2 to approve the dues increases previously approved by the Board. Thanks to the NVRC for their leadership of this effort. It was pointed out the website needs to be updated by the effective date of September 1.
- It was noted that more tech support is needed for the member meetings. At the moment, there are only enough people to run the current equipment such that the absence of any one of the people will impair the ability to have virtual member meetings. It was noted that some of the critical functions can be administered remotely.
- Explore Scientific is offering an eyepiece for a TAAA raffle in return for publicity for an event to be held at the Biosphere.
- There has been some minor weather damage to TIMPA equipment and covers. As a result, more robust covers/coatings will be implemented on a go forward basis. There also needs to be additional maintenance on signage.
- Barbara is working to validate/update equipment inventories and related insurance coverage. Doug is working on an updated inventory of loaner equipment. The starting point for the CAC inventory should be John Kalas's 2017 inventory.
- A suggestion was put forward to list available loaner equipment on the TAAA website.

Treasurers Report:

- Assets up by \$29k due to donations in the last month.
- Income of \$43k in last month.
- Expenses covered payments for the easement road and building contractor.
- Biggest variance is GTTG donations which was positive. Expenses were on budget.
- It was suggested that the GTTG facility expenses/forecasts should be updated before the next board meeting due to high level of site activity.
- A motion was made by D. Smith to accept the Treasurer's Report which was seconded by R. Reynolds. The motion passed 7-0.

COVID Policy:

- There were no COVID issues or COVID policy changes were identified for discussion.

CAC Planning/Ops Report:

- Nothing to report on the MOP pending meeting with potential lessees tomorrow.
- There is a high level of activity on the sleeping quarters. However, a significant rain event occurred and pointed to a need for changes to the current site excavation. Also, electrical changes must be made prior to SSVEC installation of the main power cables. These electrical delays may delay the installation of the facility electrical which may delay the spray foam insulation.
- John, Jim, Ed and Mike have been working to complete installation of the cable for both the internet and security cameras.
- Due to high levels of rain (~8" so far), there is a need for a more frequent and intensive weed control activity.

Revised Donation Policy:

Doug Smith presented his latest version (rev. 1) dated July 2022. The primary discussion surrounded section 2b and whether Board approval was required for unconditional, cash donations greater than \$3k. As a result, B. Reynolds made a motion D. Smith's proposed donation policy. A second was provided by J. Kalas. As a result of Board discussion, Bob Reynolds modified his motion to accept Doug's proposed donation policy with an amendment to subject unconditional cash donations greater than \$1k to Board rejection with 30 days of acceptance by the Treasurer. The amended motion was seconded by D. Rossetter. The amended motion was accepted by a vote of 7-0.

New Business:

- As a result of the new donation policy, the \$34k, \$10k and \$16k conditional donations made since the last Board meeting have been accepted by the Board as no motions were put forward to reject any of the donations.
- A series of documents from the Park Service regarding the Grand Canyon Star Party were presented. The feedback was very positive and there was also a budget request for \$800 for the 2022-23 budget year. D. Smith made a motion to approve the addition of these expenditures to the current budget with a second by B. Whitehead. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.
- The issue of developing a position description and seeking internal volunteers for a TAAA webmaster was discussed. It was then suggested that the previous technical advisory committee be reconstituted to manage the search for a webmaster. A motion was put forward by B. Reynolds to have the NVRC perfect a position description and mount an internal search for a webmaster. D. Smith seconded the motion. As a result of the subsequent discussion, Bob amended his motion to have the reconstituted IT Committee manage the development of the webmaster position description and initiate the internal candidate search. The amended motion was seconded by D. Smith. The amended motion was then passed by a vote of 7-0.
- A lengthy discussion occurred about the format, style and content of a standard TAAA letterhead/logo. Various styles and content were discussed as was whether a single standard was needed. A historical standard was reviewed and how it needs to change now

that the TAAA phone number has been abandoned. The general direction of the conversation was to come up with preferred header and footer formats rules but no motions or actions were put forward for a vote. However, there was support for footers that included both file names and dates for both CAC and TIMPA documents. In addition, there was support for a dedicated committee to put forward more detailed standards.

- A lengthy discussion on TAAA awards practices started with a discussion of TAAA's opportunity to name asteroids after dedicated club members. A proposal was put forward to establish a TAAA committee of previous award recipients to nominate potential future award recipients. This led to a discussion of the status of TAAA service award practices in general. Specifically, that there is no service award committee and no service awards are currently being given (of which there are already between 3 and 4). A motion was put forward by B. Reynolds and seconded by D. Smith to establish an award committee to make award structure and candidate recommendations to the Board inclusive of the opportunity to name asteroids. The motion passed 7-0.
- Robert Douglas has authored a new book and requested announcement of this fact in the TAAA bulletin. Doug suggested that if the author will donate a copy to the library, TAAA will publish a book review.

A motion was put forward to adjourn the meeting by R. Reynolds which was seconded by D. Rossetter. The motion was approved 7-0 and the Board meeting **adjourned @ 9pm.**