

## **TAAA Board of Directors Open Meeting Minutes: Mar 13, 2024**

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; B. Reynolds, Secretary and Members-at-Large D. Rossetter, Suzanne Bailey, John Kalas. Members attending included: Jim Knoll, John Mead, Ross Carnes, Ben Bailey, Pete Hermes.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- A motion was made by B. Reynolds to approve the minutes from the Feb 14, 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by E. Foley and subsequently approved by a vote of 7-0.

### **Presidents Report:**

- Strategic planning data will be available for the next Board meeting after a successful in person planning session. However, Suzanne will provide an update of the planning effort later in the meeting.
- Need to remind members regarding cancellation of Board/TAAA meetings in April due to the upcoming eclipse.

### **Treasurers Report**

- Barbara presented the treasurer's report, highlighting that there were no significant changes from the previous month. She explained the figures, including the bank reconciliation, and went over the financial statements. Barbara noted that the net assets stood at \$1,039,200 and total assets at \$1,474,173, an increase of \$15,000 from the previous month due to cash activity. She also discussed the income statement, mentioning high interest income due to high cash balances and significant contributions from members. Barbara pointed out certain variances between the budgeted and actual figures, attributing some to unforeseen changes in the endowment fund.
- Total monthly revenue was noted as \$15k and \$178k year to date.
- Net income was noted as \$204k year to date which is better than budget due to increased donations and interest income.
- She promised to send out the actual versus budget report in the coming week, once she corrected some classifications.
- A motion was made by E. Foley to approve the Treasurers Reports for the financial months of February. The motion was seconded by B. Reynolds and passed by a vote of 7-0.
- Barbara has reviewed and approves of the treasury related position descriptions being used to develop a go forward treasury staffing plan.(1:05:00)

## Review of Old Business

### TAAA Board Action Item List as of 3/13/24

Date		Date	
Entered	Item	Completed	Comments
3/9/23	Develop TAAA vendor & affiliate listings	Long Term	
6/6/23	Close out & transfer safe deposit box	3/13/24	Jim Knoll and John Kalas have reviewed available storage box options and made a recommendation. Motion was made and approved to have J. Kalas purchase a .3 cubic foot container for no more than \$200.
6/21/23	Resolution TAAA/TIMPA relationship		The President of TIMPA presented the TAAA draft agreement to their Board and expects approval by April.
9/13/23	Implement Member Planet data base recommendations	3/13/24	Combined with replacement study
10/11/23	Membership communication changes	3/13/24	Led by S. Bailey exit questionnaire & member satisfaction survey
10/11/23	Investigate alternatives to Membership Planet	3/13/24	Combined with replacement study
11/8/23	Insurance for 32" telescope		Barbara will research ability to insure telescope while located offsite
1/10/24	Status of Member Planet replacement study		Deferred to June meeting
2/14/24	TIMPA team to report on conversations with TIMPA regarding key card protocols and administration	3/13/24	Missing cards have been replaced and non-functioning cards are being researched.
2/14/24	Status on sewer issues at CAC		Still waiting on report on septic tank inspection. J. Kalas to follow up w/Eagle plumbing.
3/13/24	Status of Treasury function/staffing		
3/13/24	Approval of TAAA representative to CAC well sharing agreement	3/13/24	Board approved motion to appoint CAC Director as TAAA representative on CAC water well matters.
3/13/24	Creation of business cards for officers		S. Bailey offered to generate officer cards
3/13/24	Creation of generic TAAA cards for general use		S. Bailey offered to generic TAAA cards
3/13/24	Provide copy of power of attorney to Jim Knoll		Barbara to provide
3/13/24	Remove requirement for FBI check from Level 5 Section E		Jim Knoll to present changes to Board
3/13/24	Update membership renewal letter to include references to agreement with minor policy and liability waivers		David Rossetter

### TIMPA Reports:

- Feb star party cancelled due to weather and 4-5 people have attended meetings thereafter.
- TIMPA usage is starting to slowly pick up.
- Site and bridge maintenance is staying current.
- Wiring for 14" has been repaired and telescope should be usable.
- The 16" project is moving ahead with contract execution and approval. Telescope pad has been poured.

## **CAC Reports:**

- Evening under the Stars scheduled for April 13.
- Jim Knoll questioned who has authority to speak for TAAA on the CAC Well Agreement. Changes to the Agreement and/or reimbursements of costs are needed to add Alan Midkiff water meter to the well. Historically, the Treasurer had provided this representation. As a result, a motion was made by B. Reynolds to assign the Treasurer to represent TAAA on the Iridanus Board (ie the well owners). The motion was seconded by S. Bailey. There was significant amount of discussion about whether a TAAA Board member is necessary. As a result, the motion was amended to appoint the CAC Director as the TAAA representative to the Iridanus Board. The amended motion passed 7-0.
- Jim Knoll requested authority to \$31,500 plus \$2,520 sales tax for a site tractor. The purchase is fully funded by a combination of donations already received as well as a pledge by John Kalas to provide any remaining funding needed. Bob Reynolds then made a motion to authorize the CAC Director to purchase a TYM tractor and accessories for an amount not exceeding \$35,000 including taxes. The motion was seconded by S. Bailey and subsequently approved by a vote of 7-0.
- The planning group reported that a power optimization study has been completed for CAC. In summary, the results indicate that no new power will be required for the new Ketelsen and 32" observatories but any further site expansions such as member pads will likely be serviced by higher amperage power boxes located to the south.
- We received the first design package for the 32" observatory. However, many changes were needed and the architect is working on revised plans. The site for the 32" observatory has been finalized as being south of the new classroom.
- Ed reported that a community college and high school are interested in using CAC to perform binary star research. This could result in published papers utilizing CAC facilities.

## **TAAA Strategic Planning Initiative:**

- Strategic Planning event was considered successful and planning has now begun on how to complete identified initiatives and report results to membership.
- Suzanne will meet with Wendy to get the final package and start coordinating the initiative response efforts.

## **Election Update**

- Bob Reynolds summarized latest discussions on different models for delivery of Treasury services. Potential candidates for all possible positions were summarized. One candidate for a Treasurer position seems promising though no candidates for a mail pickup position have been identified.
- It was agreed to publish bios of candidates in the Members only section of the website.
- It was noted that the Board may entertain changes to the TIMPA Director position description depending on what was being requested.
- Pete Hermes mentioned plans to re-send an email to capture more family members' information for the ballot.

## **Membership Systems Update**

- David Rossetter reviewed the ongoing plan to reassess current and potential membership systems. Planning for more detail on way forward in the May meeting.
- David recapped the status of Member Planet membership and payment issues. Though the payment issues seem to be in the process of being resolved but the needed link to the TAAA Member Planet pages continues to be an issue. However, David has a fix for the later problem and is working with Member Planet to resolve the linkage issue.
- Email issues where the “send” button has been missing has been fixed.
- Continue to work email receipt issues by deleting links within emails.
- Continue to work authorization issues when accessing TAAA Bulletins. It appears problem has been fixed.
- Implementation of requiring legal waivers and minor policy concurrence on renewal is being worked. Member Planet does not have such capability but manual work arounds and requiring profile updates are being explored.
- The continued need for annual waiver and policy concurrence was discussed. It was noted that Member Planet does not provide for such annual re-approvals.
- David Rossetter then made a motion to drop the word “yearly” from Subparagraph A of the Required Level of Section 1 of the governance section of the website. The motion was seconded by Ed Foley and the motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

## **Grand Canyon Star Party:**

- Jim provided an update on the Grand Canyon Star Party, with 36 people confirmed and 15 campground requests.
- The plans for a Dean Ketelsen memorial were noted.

A motion was put forward by B. Reynolds to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by S. Bailey. The motion was approved 7-0 and the Board meeting adjourned at 9:46 pm.