

TAAA Board of Directors Open Meeting Minutes: July 10, 2024

The teleconference Zoom Board open meeting was called to order at 6:33PM, M. Smith, President, presiding. Board members present: B. Whitehead, Treasurer; B. Reynolds, Secretary; E. Foley, Vice President and Members-at-Large D. Rossetter, John Kalas. Members attending included: John Mead, Pete Hermes, Ben Bailey and Nelsey Toner.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made by E. Foley to approve the minutes for the June 12, 2024 meeting. The motion was seconded by B. Reynolds and subsequently approved by a vote of 6-0.

Presidents Report:

- It was noted that there are 2 positions that need Board appointments which will be discussed as a next agenda item.
- The Grand Canyon Star Party was a big success with record attendance. Dean Kettlesen's memorial was noted as was his family's attendance. It was requested that the upcoming TAAA Bulletin note the recent awards given to Dean including the Volunteer of the Year from the National Park Service.
- Summary reports for the GCSP will be generated after Jim Knoll returns to Tucson.
- It was noted that if there are any changes in previous conflict of interest statements the President should be informed in writing.

NVRC Report:

- It was noted that the role of Assistant Treasurer needs confirmation and forwarding to Nelsey Toner prior to her appointment by the Board.
- Barbara noted that the Assistant Treasurer needs to be appointed no later than the August Board meeting. Until this appointment is made, Mae will confirm that Terri Lappin can pick up the mail and process checks at least every 2 weeks.
- A request was made for a distribution of a resume for Stephen Ferris prior to Board vote to appoint him to the Board vacancy.
- It was agreed that with the requested resume and an Assistant Treasurer job description agreed by Barbara and Nelsey that the Board would be in a position to take action on the needed appointments.
- A motion was made by B. Reynolds to spend up to \$300 for a tax software package. It was seconded by E. Foley and approved with a vote of 6-0.

Treasurers Report

- Barbara noted that the TAAA June balance sheet showed approx \$4k in its checking account and approximately \$218k in money market accounts. In addition, fixed assets totaled approximately \$1.2 million with net assets sitting at \$1.3 million.
- The net revenue for the month of June was just under \$26k while year to date stood at approximately \$245k.

- Due to much higher levels of donations and very robust star party revenues than originally budgeted, the net income variances remain very positive.
- For the full fiscal year, TAAA generated \$176k of net income.
- It was noted that the donation from the Southwest Foundation for the Astronomy Camp has just been received.
- A motion was made by E. Foley to approve the Treasurers Reports for the financial month of June. The motion was seconded by Bob Reynolds and passed by a vote of 6-0.

TAAA Website Review:

- In order to increase Board awareness of the TAAA website, Ed Foley spent 20 minutes walking through the various data available. Areas reviewed included: the TAAA Resources pull down menu which includes details on our observing sites (TIMPA & CAC), site/room/RV/equipment reservations, classes/training, Astronomical League, SIGs, astro imaging SIGs/galleries, TAAA Forums, TAAA Library resources, TAAA video channels/resources, TAAA Bulletins back to 1990, equipment loaner, the 32" telescope project, member image gallery, member websites, TAAA contact info, member benefits, TAAA apparel and a review of the various ways to become a member.

Review of Old Business

TAAA Board Action Item List as of 7/10/24

Date		Date	
Entered	Item	Completed	Comments
3/9/23	Develop TAAA vendor & affiliate listings	7/4/24	Gradually add info to leader materials on website
6/21/23	Resolution TAAA/TIMPA relationship		TIMPA has approved TAAA draft agreement subject to receipt of proof of insurance
11/8/23	Insurance for 32" telescope & Tractor		Pending response from insurance agent/underwriter
1/10/24	Status of Member Planet replacement study		Further input requested from D. Rossetter and T. Lappin.
3/13/24	Continued follow up on Strategic Plan		Mae taking suggestions for best method to achieve
3/13/24	Status of Treasury function/staffing		Barbara & Nelsey to agree job duties
3/13/24	Creation of business cards for officers	7/10/24	Only Mae interested. Mae will address offline
3/13/24	Creation of generic TAAA cards for general use		Mae to check w/T. Lappin
3/13/24	Issue new POA's for Knoll, Foley, Rose for Well Agmt & 32"		Mae to issue POA for Bob Rose
6/10/24	Endowment Cash Investment Plan		Deferred to Aug Board mtg
6/10/24	Review/Preview of TAAA Web Page	7/10/24	First completed 6/12 & second on 7/10
6/10/24	Grand Opening of TIMPA 16		Need for planning/announcements etc
6/12/24	Mitigation of CAC/TIMPA trip hazards	7/10/24	Prior approval of \$500 for both CAC and TIMPA for safety improvements
7/4/24	Update Member Planet Astronomy League fee to \$9	7/10/24	Change confirmed by Ed and David

- A motion was made by B. Reynolds to issue a Power of Attorney for Bob Rose. The motion was seconded and passed by a vote of 6-0.
- TIMPA has bought lights for cement blocks as well as moved the blocks. Consideration was also being given to painting the blocks white.

CAC Reports:

- The 32" project is still working to finalize 3rd round of engineering drawings for both the building and the steel structure. A primary concern is the health of Warren Hensey as the telescope is stored in his garage.
- There were no updates on the Kettleesen.
- John also noted that a new roof is being installed on the Wally Rogers observatory.
- John will be supervising the installation of septic line clean outs for the dorm and classroom facilities in the coming week. This \$4,000 project will take the place of the far more expensive facility rebuild previously proposed.

TIMPA

- TIMPA Board has requested a change to draft lease agreement to include proof of insurance. As a result, B. Reynolds made a motion to Approve the Draft TIMPA Lease Agreement that includes the requested changes. Motion was seconded by E. Foley and approved by a vote of 6-0.
- Ben will forward amended agreement signed by TIMPA to Mae for TAAA signature.
- Ben has forwarded TAAA certificate of insurance to TIMPA Board President.
- TAAA TIMPA team working on options for additional gravel around the new 16" telescope pad.
- A motion was made by B. Reynolds for \$500 for repair of 14" shed, \$500 for signage and \$500 for an additional 3 picnic tables for a total of \$1,500. The motion was seconded by E. Foley and approved by a vote of 6-0.

Member Planet System Update:

- Despite earlier membership issues and some continuing payment application issues, Member Planet is otherwise operating well at the moment.
- Member Planet does not handle family memberships, surveys, volunteer tracking, Android phone based apps or SIGs very well.
- Member Planet email related services have been fixed by Member Planet. There was a setup error in the Member Planet systems.
- In process of running demonstration/test of the Club Express system. System documentation and training video are excellent. Initial impressions are good however the need to import TAAA web pages into Club Express system are still a concern.
- Still researching ability of Club Express will be able to import financial history.
- Migration planning has begun for both data and web page.
- It was agreed that Ed Foley, David Rossetter and Terri Lappin should work together to provide a potential migration plan to the Board in October.

A motion was put forward by E. Foley to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by B. Reynolds. The motion was approved 6-0 and the Board meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.