

## **TAAA Board of Directors Open Meeting Minutes: September 11, 2024**

The teleconference Zoom Board open meeting was called to order at 6:29PM, M. Smith, President, presiding. Board members present: B. Whitehead, Treasurer; E. Foley, Vice President; B. Reynolds, Secretary and Members-at-Large D. Rossetter, J. Kalas, S. Ferris. Members attending included: Ben Bailey, Jim Knoll, Ross Carnes, John Mead and Nelsey Toner.

### **Presidents Report:**

- Mae noted that she wants to start following up on recent Strategic Planning exercise. She suggested all people who were leading areas within the Planning exercise review their areas for future updates and presentations.
- Anyone with the electronic files associated with the planning should forward the files to Mae.
- It was noted that all TAAA members who are functioning in leadership roles should confirm that their memberships are kept current.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- The July 10 and Aug 14 were motioned for approvals by E. Foley and seconded by B. Whitehead. Both minutes were approved by votes of 6-0 with one abstention.

### **Treasurers Report**

- Barbara noted that the TAAA August balance sheet showed approx \$21k in its checking account and approximately \$219k in money market accounts. In addition, fixed assets totaled approximately \$1.24 million with net assets sitting at \$1.325 million.
- The net revenue for the month of August was approx \$9k while year to date stood at approximately \$23k.
- Due to CAC maintenance activity, expenses were slightly over budget for the month resulting in a \$4k deficit in net revenue for the month. However, YTD budget for net revenue is on target due to more donations than budgeted.
- It was noted that between \$60k and \$80k of cash is uncommitted and subject to direction by the Board.
- It was noted that the apparel petty cash fund needs to be found. It is likely in the backpack that S. Bailey turned over to Mae.
- Reconciliation to bank statements is completed with a notation that Paypal and Member Planet deposits lag bookings by one month.
- Barbara then walked the Board through TAAA property insurance coverage by facility and equipment grouping. It was noted that a values were needed for both the Ketelson telescope and the Stinger Pad in order to obtain coverage.
- A motion was made by E. Foley to approve the Treasurers Reports for the financial month of August. The motion was seconded by B. Reynolds and passed by a vote of 7-0.

## CAC 32” Telescope Project:

- Ed Foley walked the Board thru a summary of the history of the project/telescope to date.
- The roll off roof observatory design is complete with stamped drawings submitted to contractors and the permitting agencies. The winning general contractor bid is Southwest Traditions with a reimbursable forecast pricing of \$100k plus \$25k of contingency. TAAA has used Southwest Traditions extensively over many years with good results.
- All but \$34k of the estimated \$175k of completed cost has been raised/pledged with a loan commitment from a member to close any remaining funding gap up to \$35k. This will allow the project to move ahead while fund raising continues. As a result, it was recommended that the Board approve the project and move ahead with signing a contract for the general contractor.
- As a result, Ed Foley made the following 3 motions:
  - Need “Motion to proceed with the 32 Inch Project with under the current proposed \$175,565 budget.”
  - Need “Motion to accept the contract proposal from Southwestern Traditions; execute the proposed contract with Southwestern Traditions” (Contract draft circulated to the board this past week.)
  - Need “Motion to add, Ed Foley as a signer to the Chase Bank account to sign TAAA checks” (to facilitate contract and component purchases for the project).
- The 3 motions were seconded by B. Reynolds. The 3 motions then passed by a vote of 6-0 with one abstention.

## Review of Old Business

### TAAA Board Action Item List as of 9/11/24

Date		Date	
Entered	Item	Completed	Comments
6/21/23	Resolution of TAAA/TIMPA lease		Awaiting TIMPA signature of approved agreement
1/10/24	Status of Member Planet replacement study		Further input requested from D. Rossetter and T. Lappin in Oct mtg
3/13/24	Continued follow up on Strategic Plan		Mae taking suggestions for best method to achieve
6/10/24	Grand Opening of TIMPA 16		Planned for spring 2025
8/8/24	Listing of MP activities to be migrated from Terri		Mae to contact Terri
8/14/24	Access to library of Center for Healthy Non-Profits		Check back in Oct/Nov
9/5/24	Implement business expense reporting procedure		
9/11/24	Research tractor insurance coverage while on access road		
9/11/24	Insurance valuations for Ketelson & Stinger Pad		
9/11/24	New member introduction plan		Consider email, text, phone, etc
9/11/24	Report on status of membership status of leaders		D. Rossetter to generate report to assist

## **CAC Reports**

- Note 32" report above and progress towards getting permits approved.
- Ketelson Observatory is on hold until maintenance work on wellhouse is complete.
- The enclosure for the 18" dob is moving thru design completion with material procurement eminent. Barbara was checking to see if funding for this enclosure can be from remaining GTTG funding.
- Sept 21 is Evening Under the Stars and expect good attendance. Also planning next weed spraying as well as updated position descriptions.

## **TIMPA**

- All July events cancelled due to the monsoons though activity picked up in August.
- The "Big Lift" to install the 16" on its new pedestal was completed and the telescope was successfully put into service. Project is now moving into placing the scope into operations phase including acquisition of additional items such as eyepieces.
- Enhanced safety features, lights/painting/signage, are now in progress or in place.
- A request was made for the list of needed accessories for the 16".

## **Strategic Planning for New Members**

- Feedback was requested by Mae on new letter for new members.
- Stephen Ferris also promised to share his letter to new members regarding TIMPA.
- It was also noted that new members are invited to introduce themselves in general meetings.
- Jim Knoll suggested one button access on website for position descriptions that direct new members to those in charge of specific activities.
- It was also suggested that a plan for personal contact with new members should be investigated.

A motion was put forward by B. Reynolds to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by B. Whitehead. The motion was approved 7-0 and the Board meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.